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THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE LIST—A TOKEN FOR THE FUTURE.

It is not without a feeling of exultant gratitude that we refer our readers to our advertising columns of this day. They contain the names of the gentlemen who have consented to stand upon the general provisional committee to prepare for the Anti-state-church Conference. The list, it will be observed, is not quite completed—but, even in its present state, will serve, we make no doubt, to command the confidence of the dissenting community. If, in some respects, it is as yet deficient—if nonconformists of some denominations should regard themselves as not adequately represented therein—which we think not unlikely—we have only to ask, on behalf of the individuals to whom the work of preparing it was entrusted, first, a suspension of judgment until they have finished their task—secondly, a candid belief in their disposition from first to last to act without the slightest sectarian bias—and thirdly, the communication to the provisional secretary of the names of persons, ministers and others, whom it may be deemed desirable to add to those already published. In all cases, it must be borne in mind, that many more have been solicited to act than have ultimately consented—and in almost all cases we are warranted in stating that refusals have been based upon other reasons—some originating in private circumstances, some in misconception—than objection to the course proposed to be pursued.

We have not been wont, as our readers are well aware, to back up any course we have deemed it our duty to advocate, by the authority of influential names. To our minds blind deference to such authority is one of the leading infirmities of the present age. Hence, we have uniformly desired that any opinions or proposals we have put forward should be supported by reasons which might influence the conscience, rather than by names which can only affect the temper, of mankind. We shall not, therefore, regard the conference as imposing a more imperative duty upon dissenters now, than it did before, simply because it has the sanction of venerated men. But it may serve, at all events, to show to those who distrust their own views, and who, consequently, have stood aloof from the present movement, that it is no rash adventure, no juvenile *sortie*, no inconsiderate and reckless ebullition of inexperienced zeal, to observe that it is smiled upon and aided by several individuals, the sobriety of whose judgment none can call in question, and the fervour of whose piety none can venture to suspect. To specify them would be, perhaps, invidious, and, for the majority of our readers, would be equally unnecessary. It will suffice to recommend to them a careful examination of the list, and to congratulate them upon the appearance in it of so many whose adherence to the cause guarantees its sincerity and its success.

There is another topic upon which we may touch, in illustration of the subject now under notice. The list is made up of the names of gentlemen who have given their individual consent to an individual application, each being ignorant of the company in which he would eventually be found. Every man has acted for himself—acted upon reasons pressed upon his consideration by the mere proposal made to him by the committee—acted altogether irrespectively of the influence of leadership, or any emanation of persuasive power from head-quarters. This fact of itself, independently of knowledge which we have from other

sources, may satisfy us of the earnestness of the parties who have thus consented to take office. The list is not the result of private confederation between those whose names adorn it. Most of the gentlemen live far apart from each other. No central authority was brought to bear upon them. Popular opinion there is, as yet, none to sway their decision. None could anticipate what might be the aspect of the committee with which he ventured to identify himself—whether, in the language of the world, it would be "respectable" or whether it would be "paltry." Nothing, therefore, but a sense of duty had room to play in bringing about his compliance with the solicitation forwarded to him. And we take this to be a fair test and demonstration of single-mindedness—we look upon it as a pledge that the movement is sound at heart. For ourselves, who, having given birth to it, not without many pangs, we are more than satisfied—we are filled with a deep but tranquil joy—a joy which we trust will be shared by all our friends.

The general provisional committee having been chosen, the next step will be, to select from it an executive committee consisting of *twenty-one* members, upon whom will devolve the responsibility and the toil of settling the plan upon which delegates are to be elected, fixing the time and place of meeting, and preparing the business to be laid before the conference. For this purpose, each member of the provisional committee will be furnished with a printed copy of the list now before the public, and will be requested to mark the names of the individuals to whom he would prefer to commit the important trust. The sub-committee will then immediately proceed to a scrutiny of the papers, and will declare upon whom the election has fallen, whereupon their own functions as such will cease. The several members of it may, possibly, be placed by election on the executive committee, but, except in the case of Dr Cox, who will be *ex officio* a member, unless so placed, they will, of course, retire. Great care will, we trust, be exercised, to nominate the men who, in the judgment of each constituent, appear to be best qualified for the office. It is superfluous to observe that much will necessarily depend upon the result of this next step; and, in almost all instances, a little inquiry will suffice to guide the members of the provisional committee to a wise decision. The matter is left entirely in their hands; and we feel an increasing confidence that it will be judiciously arranged.

As the first work of the Executive committee, when chosen, will be to draw up an intelligible and, in other respects, suitable plan of action, we would recall to the minds of our readers the following resolution passed at Leicester, upon the motion of Mr Gilbert, of Nottingham:—

"That, with a view to avail themselves, as widely as possible, of the intelligence and experience of all parties friendly to the maintenance of religion by voluntary means alone, this meeting earnestly invite the communication, between this date and the 1st of February, 1844, to the secretary of the provisional committee presently to be appointed, of plans for constituting a convention such as shall appear likely to combine, with freedom from all sectarian preference and perfect ease of action, the election of delegates able and willing to promote the object in view; accompanied with suggestions as to the best time and place at which such convention shall be summoned to meet."

Not less opportune, we believe, will be a practical remembrance of the following—

"That, because the expense of summoning a convention and preparing for the business of it must necessarily be considerable, and being convinced that many individuals in different parts of the country, unable to take an active part in securing it, would be glad to contribute pecuniarily to its success, this meeting respectfully request such friends to send in donations to the provisional secretary, upon the understanding that a full account of the expenditure of such sums will be handed in to the convention on its assembling."

The hint has been acted upon by several members of the General Provisional Committee, and their example will, we trust, be extensively followed.

In conclusion, we would fain hope that this important array of names, gathered from every part of the empire, and from every religious denomination, will serve to wipe off from the movement the original sin of having been commenced, as every movement must, in a particular locality, and by individual exertion. We cannot allow ourselves to believe that prejudice will now be suffered to mar the success of so hopeful a project. It offers an opportunity, such as may never again occur, of general union and peaceful combination for a great

and holy purpose. We can hardly see how they who desire the ultimate object proposed can refuse to avail themselves of the means now at length put within their reach. None can deny that the machinery hitherto constructed is adapted, if cautiously and powerfully worked, greatly to advance the end in view, and to enlighten and prepare the public mind for that change which, above all others, the church of Christ has reason to sigh for. The question which will now occur to every sincere-hearted dissenter is, whether he is more likely to promote the abolition of state churches in the British empire by throwing himself heartily into this movement, and thus adding to its moral power, or by standing aloof from it, and thus weakening its force. If it be not preferable that the scheme, thus sanctioned and abetted, should prove a failure rather than that it should accomplish its immediate purpose—if it be undesirable to protract division, to prevent union, to leave zeal in obscurity, and knowledge unemployed—in a word, if aught whatever is to be gained by a well-concerted and persevering effort to set this question of questions in its proper light—first, before the consciences of every professed nonconformist, and afterwards before the judgment of every inhabitant of these realms, with a view to ultimate parliamentary action—then, as it appears to us, is every dissenter bound to contribute towards the actualisation of this idea, whatever of wisdom, energy, influence, or property, he can command for such an object.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Stewart Town, Jamaica, 14th Nov. 1843.

MY DEAR SIR,—May I take up a few moments of your valuable time, on behalf of myself and my brethren of the Jamaica Baptist Western Union, in reference to the anticipated convention of dissenters?

We are by no means careless spectators of the movements which are being made in the parent country, to dis sever the unhallowed union between what is called the church and the state, nor would we wish to remain idle, when our brethren are about to labour in so glorious a cause. At our late meeting of the Union, therefore, held at Falmouth, on the 8th and 9th instant, the subject was discussed, and the following resolutions were passed.

Resolved,

I. That we hail with delight the proposal to hold a Convention of Christians of all denominations, to devise means for the separation of the church from the state.

II. That, as the evils of a state-church are not confined to the parent country, we would suggest to the respected leaders of this movement the propriety of delegates being admitted, not only from all parts of the United Kingdom, but from the British colonies, and other dependencies throughout the world.

III. That should such an alteration be made in the proposed constitution of the convention, we appoint our brethren, the Rev. * and the Rev. * as the representatives of this union.

IV. That the secretary be instructed to write to the editor of the Nonconformist on the subject, furnishing him with the foregoing resolutions, and requesting him to lay them before any committee of management which may meet to fix the forms and constitution of the convention.

I may just add that the Baptist Western Union is composed of twenty ministers and their churches, which contain more than twenty thousand members, with congregations of fully thirty-five thousand. By far the greater number of these having, as will be supposed, only recently emerged from a state of slavery, have to contend with all the little difficulties incident to entrance upon the world, and consequently feel deeply, and complain loudly, respecting the burdens which a state-church has imposed upon them. Those complaints have, in some of the churches, been embodied in the shape of petitions to the House of Assembly, praying that no further grants for religious purposes may be made, either to the establishment, or to any other body of Chris-

* We have thought it advisable for the present to omit the names.

tians, and one will this week be presented on the same subject, signed by the whole of the ministers who were present at our late meeting. We have also requested, in a separate petition, that two of our number, William Knibb and David Day, should be permitted at the bar of the house to explain our principles as Voluntaries.

The sum annually allowed for church purposes by the clergy law, which does not expire, I believe, until 1847, is £28,060 16s. sterling; but this forms only a very small portion of our ecclesiastical burdens; each vestry being at liberty to tax its respective parish to the amount which may be thought necessary for this purpose. I have no documents at hand from which I can show the amounts raised by these parochial parliaments, but may give this parish (Trelawney) as an example, in which the vestry grants for church purposes have, during the last four years, varied from £2,000 to £8,000 sterling per annum. Nor can we, as in England, refuse to pay these church rates, they being so mixed up with the public or Queen's taxes, that in objecting to the one we must necessarily object to the other, and thus expose ourselves to the charge of disaffection to the government.

Excuse my trespassing to such a length. I should not have done it except to show that as the deadly upas of the establishment extends its branches and spreads its pestiferous influences through the colonies of Great Britain, so the nonconformists in those colonies are equally interested with their brethren on the other side of the Atlantic, in being represented at the convention.

Should any of the information given above be likely to subserve the great cause in which you are so nobly exerting yourself, you are at perfect liberty to make use of it in any way you may think proper.

I am, my dear sir, yours respectfully,

BENJAMIN B. DEXTER,
Secretary, *pro tem.*, to the Jamaica
Baptist Western Union.

P.S. Our united petition has, after a long and violent debate, been "rejected on account of its offensive nature," or, in other words, on account of its speaking the truth, and calling bad things by their proper names. It will be printed in next week's *Baptist Herald*, and I will forward you a copy. In the mean time we will try again.

THE STUDENTS OF THE WESTERN COLLEGE AND THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE.—We have received the following gratifying communication relative to the proposed Anti-state-church Conference:—

"Western College, Exeter, January 20, 1844.

"SIR—I am directed by my brethren to forward you a copy of the annexed declaration, which they have unanimously adopted; and to request its insertion in your next number.

"I am, sir, yours respectfully,

"T. L. BRIGHT, Secretary.

"The students of the Western college desire to record their deep conviction that the severance of the connexion between church and state is an object whose accomplishment is intimately connected with the glory of God, and the prosperity and extension of the Redeemer's kingdom, as well as with the civil and religious liberties of their fellow-subjects; and that every well directed effort for its attainment demands their fullest sympathy and their most active co-operation. Having heard, with interest, the proposal that has been laid before the churches of Christ, to summon a conference of dissenting ministers and delegates, for the purpose of deliberating and deciding upon the most efficient means of securing a general and practical recognition of the principles of voluntary Christianity; and having read with attention the arguments urged on either side of the controversy which followed, they desire to express their cordial approval of that proposal, and to record their thanksgivings to God, and their congratulations to the friends of pure religion, that measures are at length being taken to carry it into effect."

PUSEYISM IN GUIANA.—Already are discernible strong symptoms of the existence of Puseyism in British Guiana; and Puseyism, say many Congregationalists and some Presbyterians, is "popery in disguise," nay, "Antichrist." The Bishop, as we have once or twice had occasion to notice, is a young man, of a benevolent but fickle temper, and slender attainments. He was educated at Oxford, but is known to have taken little away from that seat of learning, beyond skill as a stroke-oarsman in a boat race, and some time at other athletic exercises, good as they are in their way, but hardly of the kind which would be the perfecting of a colonial clergyman. He is possessed of one or two sugar plantations, the ownership of them was not yet a hindrance and impediment to professional duties. He was enabled to exercise a generous liberality towards the diocesan, the Bishop of Barbadoes, at his episcopal visitations. In a few years,

by the influence of that divine, he was made ecclesiastical commissary, archdeacon, and, finally, bishop; stepping over the heads of elder and more judicious clergymen, inferior to him in the means of giving entertainment to their common order. Promotion so rapid was sufficient to turn a cooler head than his. The arrival of the news of the spread of Dr Pusey's doctrines seems to have well-nigh upset him altogether. The alterations in the service of the cathedral, introduced by him, were so puzzling to the congregation, that he was under the necessity of distributing a sort of supplement to the prayer-book, in a pamphlet shape, which had anything but a tranquillizing effect upon minds prone to alarm. In Berbice, one of the clergymen ventured on such innovations, that a memorial and remonstrance from forty or fifty parishioners was the consequence. The Bishop partly stood on his prerogative, and questioned the right of the complainants to interfere; partly defended the alleged innovations as amounting only to a more exact compliance with the rubrics. The complainants took umbrage at the supercilious tone and petulant phraseology of the Bishop's reply. The Bishop himself, receiving by last packet an account of the division in the Tractarian camp, is again uncertain and perplexed. He will, in all probability, continue to oscillate between antagonist opinions, now towards Geneva, now towards Rome, as packet after packet brings out news propitious or adverse to the Oxford innovators. It is hard to tell into what follies youth and the giddiness of unexpected elevation would hurry him, were he not in some measure curbed by his principal archdeacon, who, to an extraordinarily (even for a priest) avaricious disposition adds much shrewdness and a strong attachment to old and beaten paths.—*Guiana Times*.

EASTER DUES AT HUDDERSFIELD.—In a late number we gave the particulars of a case, in which Mr William Willans was summoned before the Huddersfield magistrates for not having paid his Easter dues, and that their worship's decision was postponed for a fortnight to allow the vicar's attorney time to prove that the word *communicant* used in the terrier applied to all parishioners above sixteen years of age. The call was again brought forward on Saturday the 20th inst., when there was a crowded court and a full bench in attendance. Mr Willans addressed the court at some length, at the conclusion of which the magistrates decided against him. Many respectable individuals in that district who have before paid Easter dues have resolved to pay no more.

THE LATE CHOICE OF A BISHOP.—When Mr W. E. Gladstone became aware that it was the intention of the premier to give the diocese of Lichfield to Dr Wynter (the anti-Puseyite vice-chancellor of Oxford University), the president of the board of trade waited upon Sir Robert Peel, and told him that if Dr Wynter received the appointment, he, Mr Gladstone, would withdraw from the government; stating as a reason, that Dr Wynter was a party man! Sir Robert Peel, not being in a condition to lose the services of Mr Gladstone, after some little demur, consented to forego his intention, and give the patronage to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who selected Dr Lonsdale, the present bishop.—*Shropshire Conservative*.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM IN GREAT BRITAIN.—The Roman Catholic Directory for 1844 contains a statistical table, showing the present condition of Romanism in England, so far as it can be gathered from an account of the number of places of worship, colleges, and convents. The total number of "churches and chapels" in England and Wales, according to this table, is 506, and in Scotland 72, besides 27 stations where divine service is performed. Allowing an average congregation of 300 persons to each of these places of worship, which probably rather exceeds than underestimates the fact, we find that in England, Wales, and Scotland, the entire Roman Catholic worshippers do not much exceed 180,000, out of a population of 19,000,000. Lancashire contains by far the largest number of Romish chapels. In that county there are 97; while in Bedfordshire there is but one, in Gloucestershire only seven, in Oxfordshire seven, in Herefordshire three, in Wiltshire three, and in Worcestershire thirteen. It also appears that there are eight Roman Catholic colleges in England, and one in Scotland; 26 convents, and three monasteries. The number of "missionary priests" of this faith in Great Britain is 740.

CHURCH RATES AT LEICESTER AGAIN.—We last week recorded that the ratepayers of All Saints' had refused to grant a church rate, and by the *Leicester Mercury* we find that the vestry of St Margaret's performed last week its ever-recurring duty of refusing to keep the parish church in repair, spite the persevering assiduity and smooth civility of the vicar, who, with the proposer of the rate, alone supported it.

THE CHURCH OUT-WITTED BY AN OLD WOMAN!—On Sunday week, a singular scene was exhibited at the interment of a poor old woman in the churchyard of Almondbury. It appeared that deceased had been living with some friends at Hagg, in Netherthong, who found her a place of refuge, and the old woman received some parochial assistance, and otherwise procured a living by begging, &c. A few weeks ago, she had the misfortune to fall down stairs, and received injuries which caused her death last week. The persons with whom she lodged being very poor, and not able to do anything in money towards the expenses of the funeral, recourse was had to the parish, but its allowance was too little to cover all the expenses of the funeral, and the "dues" for interment could not be forthcoming, and thus things seemed to be in a dilemma. However, it was suggested to the friends of the old woman that the minister ought to bury her *gratis*, and that they should

request him so to do. This plan seemed to give hope, and was adopted, and one of the family undertook to manage the affair, which she did effectually; for, not having full faith in the generosity of the "parson," she thought it would be best to have the corpse interred *before* she said anything about its being done *gratis*. This was done, and she stopped at the grave till it was filled up, and was then informed that the minister was waiting for the "dues." "Is he?" says she; "well, or been waiting ivver so long, to ax him to bury her for nout, for ther isn't a penny left to pay him wi." Whereupon (it is said) the minister said, had he known that before, she should have been *un-buried*. The woman replied, "We wor fear'd o' that, but ya-avver, hoo belongs Aumbrey, and we've brought her yo; and yo may please yorseln whether yo letn her stop, or taks her up agean; we'n dun all we cud for her, an ther isn't a penny left to pay him wi, and soa he mun do as he can." The minister thought the case was hopeless, and ultimately saw best to "let the dead rest in their graves," and so the matter rests at present.—*Leeds Mercury*.

BOSTON CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SOCIETY.—A meeting of the committee of the Boston Civil and Religious Freedom Society was held on Wednesday evening last, when resolutions expressive of their sympathy with the persecuted dissenters of the city of Norwich, in reference to the threatened proceedings in the Queen's Bench for non-payment of church rates, &c., were passed, and the secretary was directed to communicate with some gentlemen there, preparatory to a public meeting on this most extraordinary affair. A communication from the Council of the Complete Suffrage Union was read, urging support to Mr Sharman Crawford's motion, that the grievances of the people be considered before the supplies be granted; and a memorial and petition in support of that measure were agreed to. Resolutions approving of the proposed convention to promote the separation of church and state were also adopted.—*Stamford Mercury*.

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—On Sunday the 14th inst, sermons were preached in the Wesleyan and independent chapels of York, by Dr Mackeller, James Dodds, J. M'Cosh, and W. Arnot, the deputation from the Free Church of Scotland. On Monday evening, a second public meeting was held in Lendal chapel, R. Barnes, Esq., in the chair. The meeting, which was very numerous attended, was addressed by Dr Mackeller, W. Arnot, C. Nairne, W. B. Clark, — Mackenzie, J. M'Cosh, and J. Dodds, all members of the deputation. The collections in the city amounted to £131; donation from a gentleman at Easingwold, £50; collections at Easingwold, £17 16s.; at Tadcaster, £20; at Northallerton, £8 3s.; at Thirsk, £19 3s. 6d.; at Knaresbro', £5. Grand total for York and the neighbourhood, £261 15s. 6d.

MEMORIAL TO DR ISAAC WATTS.—On Wednesday last an influential meeting of the admirers of Dr Isaac Watts was held at the King's Head, in the Poultry, to consider the propriety of erecting a monument to his memory. W. A. Hankey, Esq., was called to the chair. The Chairman opened the proceedings with an appropriate speech. He hoped that, as the proposition had been brought forward, it would not fall to the ground from any want of respect either from the great body of Christians, or of the nonconformists; for not only did the name of Dr Watts confer honour on all Christians, but especial honour on the nonconformists. His father was a great sufferer from his steadiness to his principles, and so was Dr Watts, who, though he had many offers of the most alluring kind set before him, yet waived them all to obey the dictates of his conscience, and uphold the peculiar form of church government to which he was attached. He hoped that, with such peculiar claims to respect, the present generation of Christians would not allow this appeal to go unanswered and unsupported. Mr Freeman then moved, and Mr Sherman seconded:—"That the meeting, taking into consideration the exalted piety and the eminent talents of the late Dr Isaac Watts, and the lasting services rendered by his literary labours to the Christian church, feel that it is due to his memory, and will be a becoming token of respectful regard, to erect an appropriate monument, by which his memory, and the respect due to it, may be perpetuated." Dr Kamps moved that a committee, consisting of the Chairman, Mr Alderman Kelly, Mr J. Chippendale, Mr J. J. Freeman, Mr W. Greig, Mr J. Foulger, and others, be appointed, which was seconded by Mr Smith, of Poplar. Mr J. Foulger moved the third resolution, for the continuance of Mr E. Clarke's services as secretary, hoping the subscription would not be confined to dissenters, and he trusted many episcopalians would rejoice, not only in being allowed, but in being invited, to contribute: it ought not to go forth as a dissenters' memorial only. Mr J. Turner seconded the resolution; which was agreed to. Mr W. Greig handed in a subscription of £5, and a further resolution was passed for entering into a subscription for carrying out the object of the meeting.

Correspondence.

IMPORTANT QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—As the time for the assembling of parliament is now just at hand, will you allow me a corner to introduce a subject which is appropriate to the present time, and which has not hitherto, as far as I am aware, been brought before the public as a matter of serious inquiry. The question is this:—Is it right for Christians to petition the present House of Commons on any subject? To which I shall decidedly answer in the negative; hoping that you, sir, or some of your readers, will set me right if I am in error.

Whether right or wrong in this opinion, I can only say it is not the mere hasty thought of to-day, but has been taken up after considerable reflection, and was acted upon by me during the intense excitement on the Factories bill. Few persons had a deeper hatred of that measure than myself, yet I did not sign any one of the numerous petitions which were sent from my neighbourhood against it. The reasons which induced me to adopt that course were, that I concurred in the generally received opinion, that a large proportion of the present members of the House of Commons—tories, whigs, and radicals—had obtained their seats by illegal means, and considered that, by signing a petition to that house, I must, to a great extent, sanction the means by which those members had reached their present position; or, at any rate, that I could never after, consistently, protest against the corrupt and illegal practices to which they had resorted. The whole thing appears to me to be so detestable, that I cannot see how Christians can, with a clear conscience, in any way connive at it; ought they not rather to mark it with their severest reprobation? If a poor man should happen to go within the preserves of one of the gentry, and catch a hare in order to supply the wants of his family, he would soon be imprisoned, if not transported, for the crime; but the honourable great man, who does the best he can to corrupt and debase a similar person, or a hundred persons, in order that he may elevate himself, and defraud the whole community, escapes all punishment, and is still looked upon as a gentleman; yet, surely, it cannot be right that Christians should honour such men by presenting their "humble petitions" to them, with the promise that they "will ever pray." Would it not be more consistent and dignified for them to insert a single letter, and thus say we will *never* pray, but will ever protest?

Should any manifestation of public opinion be called for during the ensuing session, I would say, let public meetings be called, and resolutions passed, condemnatory of the measures against which the agitation is directed; at the same time firmly declaring a fixed determination not to present any petitions to the present House of Commons, for the reasons above stated. This, I believe, would sorely mortify and trouble the worthy Commons, while it would enable religious men to stand forward without compromising their consistency. At the time of the last agitation I was frequently told that nothing but petitions would have any real effect. Should any person repeat the same assertion now, I would say that, even if it were so, I cannot agree to "do evil that good may come." I must, however, entirely dissent from the opinion; believing that fifty public meetings, held in important towns, passing resolutions of the character above referred to, and taking care to make them public, would make a far greater impression on the Commons than five hundred "humble petitions." I would also ask the person making such an assertion—What has brought the repeal question in Ireland to its present position? And again—How is it that the Anti-corn-law League now recommends its friends not to petition?

I hope, sir, I shall not be misunderstood in this matter. The foregoing remarks apply exclusively to the House of Commons. I have no just love to the upper house; yet, as there can be no charge laid of illegality as to the means by which they have arrived at their high position, I would not hesitate for a moment to sign a petition to that house against any such measure as the Factories bill; but should rejoice to see a whole flood of petitions poured in, so as to operate upon their fears, if prejudice should, perchance, have closed the door of reason against us.

On the whole, sir, it does appear to me a matter of great importance that the real friends of liberty and religion should, at the present time, look well to the position they take, and the attitude they assume, that they may not lower the dignity of their cause.

I am, sir, yours,
A LOVER OF CONSISTENCY.

Islington, Jan. 11th.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

The Executive Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union met at the office, 37, Waterloo street, on Monday afternoon, the President in the chair. Letters were read from London, Paisley, Crawfordsburn, Chatham, Tavistock, Bridgwater, Pontypool, Brighton, Cheltenham, and Edinburgh.

THE SUPPLY MOVEMENT.—The deputation to Lancashire reported verbally that they had visited Stockport, Oldham, Rochdale, Bolton, and Bury, since last meeting of council, in furtherance of the proposal that the grievances of the people should be heard and redressed before the supplies are voted, as follows, viz. :—

STOCKPORT.—The meeting at Stockport was a conversational one. It was numerously attended, although but short notice of it had been given. Alderman Hollins was in the chair, and a resolution was unanimously passed affirming the principle and requesting the members for the borough to give effect to it until the people be fully, fairly, and freely represented in parliament, and civil, religious, and commercial freedom be permanently established. The proceedings throughout were of the most interesting and encouraging character.

OLDHAM.—The meeting at Oldham was advertised to be held in the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, Mr Fielden, one of the members for the borough, being expected to attend. The Hall was crowded to excess, nearly the whole of the people standing, and numbers had to go away for want of room. On the platform were several of the leading manufacturers of the town. The meeting unanimously and most enthusiastically passed a resolution in favour of the plan, and agreed to petition the House of Commons to give effect to it, and requesting their representatives to give it their best support. Mr Fielden delivered a most important speech, in the course of which he pledged himself to work the principle out if the people of Oldham were at his back. This brought out a feeling of approbation which induced Mr Fielden to express his high satisfaction at the determination they had come to, and an earnest hope that other places would follow their good example.

ROCHDALE.—The deputation had not intended to visit Rochdale, having learned that Mr Crawford is to visit his constituents there on the 29th inst.; but on reaching Stockport it was found that a meeting was called for Wednesday evening: they made it a point to attend. The meeting was most numerous and spirited. Mr Leach, chief constable, in the chair. An address thanking Mr Crawford for what he has done in furtherance of the cause of political freedom—sympathising with him in the difficulties he had to encounter—approving of his present proposal, and pledging themselves to support him in giving effect to it, was unanimously passed and put in course of signature at once. At the close of the meeting a Complete Suffrage Union was formed.

BOLTON.—The meeting at Bolton was held in the Temperance Institution, a large and commodious building. There were no fewer than from ten to twelve hundred people present, amongst whom were the Mayor and a number of the principal manufacturers of the town. After hearing the proposal stated by the deputation, a resolution was proposed, declaring it to be constitutional, just, and necessary; but James Lord, a chartist, insisted on moving an amendment, declaring that the charter could alone remedy the grievances of which the people complained. The amendment on being put had only from thirty to fifty hands held up in its favour while the motion was carried by acclamation. The resolution carried also included a request that the members for the borough, Dr Bowring and Mr P. Ainsworth, should support the proposal in parliament. Dr Bowring has already expressed his approval of it.

BURY.—The Commercial buildings of this borough were crowded, nearly all the people standing, on Friday evening. Edmund Grundy, Esq., of Park hill, was called to the chair by acclamation. The meeting was warmly in favour of the plan, and passed a resolution accordingly. At the close, a Complete Suffrage Association was formed.

The Council were highly gratified with this report.

OPINIONS OF CORRESPONDENTS ON THE PROPOSAL.

The following are selected from the correspondence of the Council, on the supply movement.

KETERING.—"The more I think of Mr Crawford's plan, the more deeply am I convinced that it offers the most probable means of success, which have hitherto been suggested."

PONTYPOOL, WALES.—"We are all here delighted with W. S. Crawford's plan."

NEWTON STEWART.—"The chief excellence of Mr Crawford's proposal, is, that it is one to which no party, pretending to be on the people's side, can easily object. I hope it may have the effect of uniting all parties in favour of religious and political freedom, teaching them to co-operate together for mutual benefit, and preparing the way for a more extensive national union than has yet existed."

GLASGOW.—"From the unanimity which seems to prevail in favour of the proposal of W. Sharman Crawford, Esq., M.P., among all classes of genuine reformers, I have no doubt but a meeting will be called at an early period to consider it here."

PAISLEY.—"The provost of Paisley thus writes—"My warmest sympathy goes with the association, in this, as in all their other efforts. I have got a meeting convened, and expect we shall be able to forward both a petition to the house and a letter to our member."

BOSTON.—"The circular of the National Complete Suffrage Union was laid before the committee of the Boston "Civil and Religious Freedom Society," on the 17th instant; and, as the result, I am instructed to inform you, that the constitutional principle that the grievances of the people should be investigated and redressed, before the supplies are voted, was fully and approvingly recognised. A petition to the House of Commons, praying them now fully to act out the principle, and also a memorial to Sir James Drake, requesting him to give his support to an amendment that will be moved to that effect, are now in the course of signature."

CHATHAM.—"It is most gratifying to witness the energy and determination of the Complete Suffrage Union, to carry out this proposal."

BRIDGWATER.—"Could we get up petitions generally through the country, in support of the proposal, after the manner of those got up against the Education bill, they would not be without effect."

The president, secretary, and treasurer, were appointed a sub-committee to manage the preliminary arrangements for the meeting in London on the 31st.

METROPOLITAN COMPLETE SUFFRAGE DEMONSTRATION.—We refer our readers to an advertisement in another column, by which it will be seen, that this important meeting will be held at the Crown and Anchor; and that W. S. Crawford, Esq., will take the chair. The meeting promises to be one of the most important and interesting that have been held for many years past in the metropolis, on the subject of equal representation. We hope those who feel an interest in the cause will spare no exertion to make it such. The following gentlemen have been invited to take part in the meeting:—Mr J. Aldis, Mr Thomas Beggs, Dr Bowring, M.P., Mr John Burnet, J. Brotherton, Esq., M.P., T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., Jonathan Duncan, Esq., J. Fielden, Esq., M.P., W. J. Fox, Esq., T. M. Gibson, Esq., M.P., T. Gisborne, Esq., M.P., Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P., Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., J. T. Leader, Esq., M.P., Mr William Lovett, Mr Edward Miall, Thomas Pattison, Esq., M.P., Dr Thomas Price, J. A. Roebuck, Esq., M.P., J. Scholefield, Esq., M.P., Thomas Spencer, M.A., Joseph Sturge, Colonel T. P. Thompson, J. S. Trelawney, Esq., M.P., Mr Henry Vincent, Thomas Wakley, Esq., M.P., W. Williams, Esq., M.P.

REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES.—MR CRAWFORD'S PLAN.

BOLTON.

A public meeting was held in the Temperance Institution, Bolton, on Thursday evening, to hear Mr Joseph Sturge and Mr J. H. Wilson, as a deputation from the National Complete Suffrage Union, on the subject of moving amendments on supply motions until the people's grievances be heard and redressed. There were from ten to twelve hundred people present. Amongst the leading reformers we observed Thomas Gregson, Esq., mayor, J. C. Darbyshire, Esq., late mayor, Robert Walsh, Esq., late mayor, Richard Dunderdale, Esq., common councilman, Thomas Thomason, Esq., Robert Heywood, Esq., J. Crosland, Esq., Mr W. Fyfe, baptist minister, John Cotterell, Esq., Joseph Crook, Esq., &c., &c. The deputation addressed the meeting with excellent effect, and were repeatedly cheered during the addresses. A resolution was then submitted to the meeting, affirmatory of the principle, and requesting the members to support it in parliament. This was opposed by James Lord, an obstructive chartist, who moved the charter, but, says the *Manchester Times*, "the amendment was indignantly rejected;" there were but about forty or fifty hands held up in its favour. The original resolution embodied all the six points, but the supporters of the amendment contended that it was no use without the name. A vote of thanks was then unanimously passed to the deputation, and the meeting separated.

ROCHDALE.

When it became known that a deputation from the Complete Suffrage Union was last week to visit several towns in Lancashire in furtherance of the proposal of Mr W. S. Crawford, member for this borough, to seek redress of grievances by moving amendments on motions of supply, the friends of the movement in Manchester, with whom the arrangement of the places to be visited rested, proposed to hold a meeting in Rochdale on Wednesday evening. It being the intention of Mr Crawford to visit his constituents on the 29th inst., it was agreed to make the present meeting preliminary to that one; and in order to have a select party, circulars of invitation were issued to a large portion of the electors, while bills were put out announcing that the meeting would be open to any friends of the suffrage movement who might make it convenient to attend. The meeting was called in the Temperance Institution, and was numerous and respectably attended; James Leach, Esq., chief constable, was called to the chair by acclamation. Among those present were James Gibson, Esq., H. Kelsall, Esq., B. Bright, Esq., S. Taylor, Esq., J. Whittaker, Esq., Gratton Bright, Esq., Jacob Bright, Esq., James Mason, Esq., A. Stewart, Esq., J. King, jun., Esq., J. Ecroyd, Esq., &c., &c.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr Crawford felt a deep interest in the question. He would take a prominent part in it when parliament assembled, and would be prepared to move the liberty of the subject on all occasions when the funds of the country came up (cheers). He had now the pleasure of introducing Mr Sturge.

Mr STURGE then came forward, and was received with much applause. Mr Sturge then gave an outline of the proposed plan of action, proved the necessity of uniting to work it out, and concluded by expressing his confident hope that the people of Rochdale would strengthen the hands of their representatives in giving effect to it (enthusiastic cheering).

Mr F. WARREN, of Manchester, addressed the meeting on the general question of class legislation, and made some appropriate observations on Mr Crawford's proposal, which were warmly applauded by the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN then introduced Mr Wilson as the other member of the deputation, who went fully into the nature and design of the movement, and proved, by many startling facts, the necessity of withholding the supplies until the people's grievances were heard and redressed. He sat down amid general applause.

The following address to the hon. member for Rochdale was then moved and seconded:—

"To William Crawford, Esq., M.P. for the Borough of Rochdale.

"We, the undersigned electors and non-electors of the borough of Rochdale, gratefully acknowledge the able services which, as our representative in parliament, you have rendered to the cause of civil, religious, and commercial freedom. We sympathise with you in the difficulties you have had to encounter in labouring to obtain for the people, full, fair, and free representation, and being satisfied that your proposal to move amendments on motions of supply, until the grievances of the people are heard and redressed, is constitutional, just, and necessary, we earnestly request that you may give it full effect, and hereby pledge ourselves to strengthen your hands, and encourage you to persevere in the patriotic course you propose to take. We are, &c., &c."

It was unanimously carried.

Votes of thanks were passed to the chairman and deputation, and the meeting separated.

GREAT MEETING AT OLDHAM.

(Abridged from the *Manchester Times*.)

On Tuesday evening, January 16th, a meeting was held in the town hall, Oldham, to consider the proposal of Mr Sharman Crawford, M.P., to move amendments on supply motions, until the grievances of the people are heard and redressed. It was announced in the bills calling the meeting, that Mr Fielden, M.P., Mr Sturge and Mr J. H. Wilson, the president and secretary of the National Complete Suffrage Union, had promised to attend. Long be-

fore the hour of meeting the people were crowding to the hall, and by eight o'clock the splendid and spacious building was crowded, nearly the whole of the people standing, while many went away who could not find room. There were about fifteen hundred people present, a large proportion of them being electors. Owing to some misunderstanding, a good deal of time was lost in appointing a chairman. It appeared that a charge had been made for admission to the platform, so as to raise funds to defray the expense of the meeting. To this a number of the working men demurred, and founded on it an objection to the chairman proposed by the committee of management, and moved that Mr Yardley take the chair. After some explanations the motion was put and carried, and Mr Yardley took the chair amid warm applause. He stated the object of the meeting, asked a candid and patient hearing for all the speakers, and then introduced Mr Sturge.

Mr STURGE, on coming forward, was received with great cheering. He expressed his great satisfaction at being present at a meeting of the people of Oldham, who had done the cause of political freedom essential service by the election of their present representatives [great applause]. Mr Sturge then stated the nature of Mr Crawford's proposal; proved its necessity by various facts; and urged it as a plan of action; which, while it was fitted to unite all classes of reformers, and obtain for each redress of individual grievances, would secure for the people full, fair, and free representation in the Commons' house of parliament [cheers].

The CHAIRMAN was then about to introduce Mr Wilson, when a man from the distant end of the room wished to ask Mr Sturge if he meant to ascribe to the chartists a disposition to seek their rights by physical force?

Mr STURGE, in reply, said he was merely stating his own views of the inviolability of human life, when he spoke of parties wishing to secure political freedom by physical force; and he believed that none present would deny that at one time some of those who wished to obtain the charter, thought, with Sir James Mackintosh and some other political writers, that circumstances might arise which would justify an appeal to arms [hear, hear].

The same person repeated his question. He wished a quaker answer to it. He asked Mr Sturge if he believed the chartists now wished to resort to physical force to gain the charter [hear, hear].

Mr STURGE: As a body I believe they do not [applause].

The same person afterwards stated that he was quite satisfied with Mr Sturge's reply, and should now heartily commend all classes of reformers to unite and support the supply movement.

Mr WILSON then rose, and was received with applause. He spoke at some length on the general question, and adduced a number of facts to prove that the plan was constitutional, just, and necessary, and calculated to obtain for the people full, fair, and free representation. It had this advantage above all other plans of action yet proposed: it could be carried out to secure the redress of individual grievances, while at the same time those who obtained the redress of those grievances could not take the instrument along with them should they feel disposed to leave the people to seek for themselves full, fair, and free representation. So long as they had two such men in the House of Commons as Mr Crawford and Mr Fielden, the people could compel the government at any time, through their united and persevering efforts, to yield to their just demands [Mr Wilson sat down amid great applause].

The CHAIRMAN then introduced one of their respected representatives, John Fielden, Esq.

Mr FIELDEN then came forward, and was received with a general burst of applause. He said—

Gentlemen—I have endeavoured to serve you honestly and faithfully for eleven years [hear]. I find that to-night you are disposed to devolve upon me a more arduous duty, as your representative, than any I have yet been engaged in [cheers]. If you were as much aware of the difficulties of fighting the battle in the House of Commons, which has been proposed by the Complete Suffrage Union, as I am, you would feel for any individual who may be called on to engage in it [hear, hear, from Mr Sturge]. But if I be spared, and health and strength permit, and nothing prevents me from attending in the House of Commons, you may rest assured of it, I will give all the support in my power to Mr Sharman Crawford, or any other individual, in any motion they may make in order to stop the supplies till the grievances of the people were heard and redressed [great cheering]. It has been my endeavour, ever since I went to the House of Commons, to find a number of men who would take up this question, and carry it out [hear]. Mr Wilson has given you several cases in which it was practically applied. He has told you that Pym was the first to apply it. How many, think you, did he get to support him in the House? Why, he commenced with three, and those three men were able to beat the ministers of the day, and carry their point [great cheering]. I don't know if there have been three such men in the House of Commons since I went there [hear].

He went a little into the history of the charter, and the reason why he was more inclined to support complete suffrage.

I was consulted about the charter before it was given to the world. I approved of it. It was first brought out at Birmingham, then it went to Scotland, and the meeting at Kersal Moor adopted it. I was in the chair at that meeting. Now if I had only gone for the three points I have just stated, I would not have taken the chair on that occasion [hear, hear]. I found that the charter embraced those three points, and I readily gave in to the others [cheers]. Such was the charter. Why, then, it may be asked, does Mr Sturge come forward with those six points under another name, and why do I support him? [hear, hear]. Because the name "charter" became odious with certain classes of society [hear]. And let me tell you that they had some cause for it [hear,

hear, and cheers]. Well, a petition was got up to parliament in support of the charter—the national petition [hear]. Mr Attwood presented that petition: I supported it. How was it received? Lord John Russell, then the leader of the reform party in the house, said there was not a majority of the working classes favourable to universal suffrage [cheers, and a voice: "That was a lie." Renewed cheers]. If that gentleman had said so in the House of Commons somebody would have been at him [applause and laughter]. I say it was an untruth—and I believe Lord John Russell himself knew it to be so [applause]. After the petition was presented, Mr Feargus O'Connor, Mr John Frost, Mr Pittcaithly, and many others of the conference then sitting in London, came to consult me at my lodgings as to what they should do next. Mr Attwood was present. I said, you heard Lord John Russell say that the people of England had a right to have annual parliaments, universal suffrage, and vote by ballot, and any form of government they pleased, but that the people of England were not with you [hear, hear]. I said, you must prove that he is wrong; you must go down and tell the people this; get petitions again and again with proper signatures, and show Lord John Russell and the country that you have a majority [applause]. I urged this course of conduct upon the deputation. They replied, "We can't wait—[hear, hear, and breathless silence]—the people are starving, and it would be dangerous to delay, the people will not stand it" [hear]. Well, I said, I was sorry for it, and asked, what will you do? They could not tell. They went to Birmingham. What followed? A riot [hear, hear]. The introduction of a government police aggravated that riot: the loss of property followed, and thus difficulties were thrown in the way of the further progress of the movement for the charter. Was that all? No. What happened in Wales [hear, hear]? You know well. Frost, and Williams, and Jones, who are now suffering in New South Wales, know too well what happened there [hear, hear]. Now, in these circumstances, what could I do? I could not go for the charter. No. I could not co-operate with the chartists unless they pursued a peaceable course. Had they done so, such has been the state of the times since then, that I believe the charter would have been obtained. It was the want of patience that led to the breaking up of the chartist cause in many a good man's mind [cheers]. Now, when Mr Sturge comes forward and offers complete suffrage, which contains all the points of the charter, and when we have in himself a guarantee that the agitation will be peaceably conducted, and when he can influence many good men to go with him who would not have gone with the movement for the charter, on what ground can I refuse to co-operate with him [great cheering]? Why, the charter and complete suffrage are the same. Mr Taylor says, "Why not come over to us?" with equal force Mr Sturge may say, "Why not come over to us?" [cheers]. Is it wise to quarrel about a name? Is it not folly to do so when not only is there no advantage to be gained by it, but loss to be suffered?—while by going for complete suffrage, with the influence which Mr Sturge and his friends can command, all you wish may be carried [much cheering]. Let me advise those who profess to be complete suffragists—those who profess to be universal suffragists, and those who profess to be chartists, to unite and co-operate with heart and hand, and get that redress of grievances which will place you in that state of comfort which you never should have lost [cheers]. Well, now—what are the means by which this end may be obtained? You have heard them [applause]. The proposal of Mr Sharman Crawford has been laid before you. It is a good one. It may be carried out to any extent in detail.

He then, at some length, referred to the means for carrying the plan into practical effect, and continued—

The question now is, what am I to do? Am I to be supported? A majority of my constituents will be enough for me. If you get up a petition, and have it signed fairly and fully by a majority of the people of Oldham, I wish no more. Let this be done, and you will not only support me, but you will be doing what is necessary to support any others who may be willing to work this difficult work. If you do not support me, I am not pledged, nor will I be pledged, to move it at all but on this condition [hear, hear]. I must have the Oldham people at my back [cheers]. If I pledge myself you must support me by petition. Let the people of Oldham, then, set an example in this matter, as they have done before, and ere long we shall get up a force—not for fighting—but a moral force which will be quite sufficient to carry complete suffrage, or the charter, or whatever else you may think necessary to promote the comfort and happiness of the people [great applause]. If you carry this resolution, and will support me by petition, and let me have one up before the house meets on the first of February, I will present the petition, and say it is the petition of my constituents which urges me to oppose the granting of further supplies to the minister until the people's grievances are heard and redressed.

Mr Fielden took his seat amid loud and long-continued cheering.

A working man on the right of the chairman wished to ask Mr Fielden if the Chancellor of the Exchequer could not raise the supplies by deficiency bills?

Mr FIELDEN said the gentleman who had asked that question had not, he presumed, had much experience in deficiency bills [a laugh]. Bills were simply promises to pay at a certain time, their current value being dependent on the ability of those accepting them to pay them when due [hear]. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would find his deficiency bills of no great value, if the representatives of the people, who held the purse strings, refused the supplies [hear, hear, hear]. He hoped that would be a sufficient answer to the gentleman's question [hear, hear, and cheers].

The resolution having been put and carried most enthusiastically, and also a petition to parliament founded on it, and a memorial requesting Mr Fielden to support an amendment which would be moved on the address, embodying this principle, a vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

SUNDERLAND.—On Monday night last a public meeting was held in the Arcade room, in this town, to consider on the expediency of instructing the

members for this borough to support Sharman Crawford's motion for stopping the supplies until efficient measures be adopted to redress the grievances of the people. Mr Christopher Scott was called to the chair. The meeting was addressed by Messrs J. Taylor, T. Dickinson, W. Chapel, G. Charlton, J. Bruce, J. Williams, W. Dobie, and J. Hall. Most of the above speakers contended that it was expedient to adopt a petition to the members for Sunderland, requesting them to support the motion of Sharman Crawford. A resolution to this effect was moved and seconded. An amendment was proposed and seconded, expressive of want of confidence in the parties by whom the forthcoming motion of Sharman Crawford is expected to be supported, and that no measure short of the people's charter becoming the law of the land would fully relieve the people. After a very lengthened discussion, the amendment was carried by a great majority. A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and the company separated.—*Sunderland Herald*.

WORCESTER.—Last Thursday evening a meeting of the Complete Suffrage Association, and of some other friends of radical reform, was held at the usual place in Lowesmoor, to receive a deputation from Birmingham, and to consider the propriety of petitioning the members for the city to support Mr Sharman Crawford in his endeavours to prevent an increase of the standing army, and, in short, to stop the supplies altogether until the grievances of the people are redressed. Mr Wilson, the secretary of the parent association at Birmingham, addressed the meeting in a speech of considerable length, showing the necessity of some such step being taken. At the conclusion of his speech a committee was formed to prepare addresses, one for the electors and another for the non-electors, and to obtain signatures to them praying the representatives of our city in parliament to support the line of action proposed by Mr Crawford. A large meeting of deputies from all parts of the kingdom is to be held immediately before the opening of the parliamentary session, when they will probably be presented.—*Worcester Chronicle*.

LEICESTER.—At the meeting of the committee of the Complete Suffrage Association on Thursday evening, it was resolved to call a general meeting of the association, to be held at the town hall, on Monday evening next, at eight o'clock, for the purpose of expressing an opinion upon the plan of parliamentary operations proposed by Mr Sharman Crawford. Each member to be at liberty to introduce his friends.—*Leicester Mercury*.

TOWER HAMLETS.—MR VINCENT.—A lecture on the principles of complete suffrage was delivered on Tuesday week by Mr Henry Vincent, at the Eastern Institution, Commercial road. The attendance was very numerous, principally of the male sex, and combined a fair proportion of both the middle and working classes. The chair was occupied by Ebenezer Clarke, Esq., who after making some judicious observations on the necessity for mutual forbearance amongst sincere inquirers after truth, introduced the lecturer, asking for him only a patient and attentive hearing. Mr Vincent then proceeded to address his audience with his accustomed ability and eloquence. We regret that we are unable to furnish our readers with even an outline of the course of argument pursued. For about two hours he held his hearers entranced by his clear exposition of the subject, with facts and illustrations, brought copiously to bear on it, at once charming and instructing. On the conclusion of the lecture, a vote of thanks to Mr Vincent was moved by Mr Halliday, minister of the gospel, seconded by Mr Woodyard, minister of the gospel, and carried with unbounded applause. After making his acknowledgments, Mr V. moved the thanks of the meeting to the Chairman; Mr Crellin seconded this motion, which was carried unanimously, and the meeting separated. The committee of the South Tower Hamlets Complete Suffrage Association have much reason for encouragement in the appearance of this meeting. This is the first occasion for these principles to have been introduced in the neighbourhood, and their reception was gratifying to all their advocates. Many members were enrolled, and an interest excited which will not soon die away.

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE AT BRISTOL.—A meeting was held at the long room, Taylor's Court, Broad street, last week. It was numerous and respectfully attended. Mr William Merrick occupied the chair. Mr W. Dutton, Mr Bael, Mr Webber, and a Mr Ranford, a member of the Chartist Council, addressed the meeting, in reply to some observations of Mr Webber. The objection of Mr Ranford was met and explained by Mr Johnson, with every satisfaction to that gentleman and the other Chartists present. Good feeling and order was restored to the meeting and continued to its close. Mr Johnson was followed by Mr Hamments, who wound up the business of the evening in a neat and effective speech. At its close several members took out their cards, and five other persons were enlisted in the cause by becoming members. With thanks to the chairman the meeting adjourned until Monday evening next, at the same place.

READING, BUCKS.—On Thursday and Friday evenings last we were again favoured by the presence of Henry Vincent in our town hall. The audiences were even larger than the preceding week, and an intense spirit of enthusiasm pervaded the meetings. It was not the numbers alone which rendered these meetings remarkable for this agricultural town; but it was the presence of highly respectable ladies and gentlemen of opposite politics, ministers and deacons of churches, that indicated the rapid spread of democratic principles. The first address was on the tendencies of the commercial spirit upon the social and intellectual condition of men, and their political interests generally. The second

was "on the advantages of education and moral power as a means of procuring the people's rights." Great interest was felt in these topics, and votes of thanks were given to Mr Vincent with hearty cheers. It is intended to hold a complete suffrage tea-party as soon as the requisite arrangements can be made, and several members of parliament and other friends will be invited to attend.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—We have received a copy of the address of the inhabitants of Birmingham, adopted at the great meeting lately held in that town, printed as a hand-bill, and addressed to the electors of West Surrey. Where it is impossible to hold public meetings in favour of Mr Crawford's plan, this will be found an excellent means for arousing public attention on the subject.

As a symptom of the growing interest which Mr Crawford's plan is exciting throughout the country, it may be mentioned that a full report of the meeting at Cheltenham, on the 9th instant, which appeared in the *Free Press* of that town, has been reprinted as a tract, and largely circulated throughout the neighbourhood.

OPINIONS OF COMPLETE SUFFRAGE IN 1795.—The following is taken from a work published in the year 1795, and the author, in quoting the passage, says "they savoured strongly of the Duke of Richmond; they fell accidentally into his hands; but the author is a total stranger to him:"—

"It is declared—
"1. That the government of this realm, and the making of laws for the same, ought to be lodged in the hands of king, of lords, of parliament, and representatives of the whole body of the freemen of this realm.

"2. That every man of this commonalty, excepting infants, insane persons, and criminals, is of common right, and by the laws of God, a freeman, and entitled to the full enjoyment of liberty.

"3. That liberty or freedom consists in having an actual share in the appointing of those who frame the laws, and who are to be the guardians of every man's life, property, and peace; for the all of one man is as dear to him as the all of another, and the poor man has an equal right, but more need to have representatives in the legislature than the rich one.

"4. That they who have no voice nor vote in the electing of representatives do not enjoy liberty, but are absolutely enslaved to those who have votes and to their representatives; for to be enslaved is to have governors whom other men have set over us, and to be subject to laws made by the representatives of others, without having representatives of our own to give consent in our behalf."

General News.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The ceremony of inaugurating the new monument to Molière was performed on Monday last. It is erected at the corner of the Rue Richelieu and the Rue Traversière, which latter street is henceforth to be called Fontaine Molière. The monument, designed by M. Visconti, comprises three figures—the comic and tragic muses, and the great dramatist. It cost 178,000 francs. There were rumours that the students meant to breed a riot, and an enormous guard surrounded the monument, all the troops in the city being under arms. The large procession of enthusiasts could not get near enough to the statue to do anything appropriate with the bunches of *immortelles* that they all bore. The prefect of Paris, however, made a speech, and all passed off smoothly.

The debate in the Chamber of Deputies upon the address, is a very long, and, hitherto, not very lively affair. On Thursday, the orators of the opposition generally combated the paragraph in the King's speech, on the "always increasing prosperity of the country," and the statements made by the minister of commerce in support of that paragraph. It was only on Thursday evening that the first paragraph of the address was finally agreed to, the whole of the amendments proposed having been rejected.

On Friday the discussion was continued, and the second and third paragraphs were adopted. The first of these is that in which it is stated that the equilibrium between the receipts and the expenditure has been re-established, and the other, that in which French sympathy for Polish nationality is proclaimed. In the latter part of the sitting, M. Billault moved an amendment, which it is understood that the different sections of the opposition have agreed to support. The object of M. Billault's amendment is, instead of the "entente cordiale," which the King's speech says is the state of the relations between the governments of France and England, to substitute words in the address of a more reserved and less confidential construction. The only speeches made on Friday were those of M. Guizot, in defence of his policy and of M. Billault, in reply to M. Guizot's remarks. M. Guizot's speech is admitted by all to have been very able and eloquent; but the *Constitutionnel* says, that the argument, though conducted with great art, had not removed any of the complaints of the opposition. In the Chamber itself the speech made a very powerful impression. At the end of the sitting, M. Thiers rose to address the house, but the hour being late, he postponed his speech till Monday.

The *Courrier Français* says that the opinion in the chamber on Friday was, that the amendment of M. Billault would be carried by a majority of twenty votes, and that speculations were already going on as to who would be the probable ministry in case of such an event. The following is the list, as given by the *Courrier Français*: Count Molé, president of the council, and minister of foreign affairs; M. Billault, interior; M. Dufaure, justice; H. Passy, finance; Marshal Valée, war; Du Carne, religion; Admiral Berget, marine; Cousin, public instruction; Gouin, public works; Salvandy, or Bignon,

commerce. The ministry, on the other hand, expect forty votes in their favour.

GREECE.

The *Austrian Observer* publishes a letter dated Athens the 26th ult., announcing that the reply of King Otho to the address of the National Assembly had excited such general applause, that the entire assembly wished to proceed to the palace to thank his Majesty. The committee appointed to prepare a plan of a constitution had had several debates as to whether the appointment of senators should be vested in the King, and whether the appointment should continue for life. At length the first part of the question was carried in the affirmative by 15 to 6, with a proviso that the senators should be renewed or re-appointed at the end of ten years.

The most perfect tranquillity prevailed throughout Greece.

SPAIN.

The Madrid journals of the 12th inst. state that General Narvaez had replied to the minister of war's communication refusing his resignation of the rank of captain-general by a second letter, insisting on resigning the appointments which had been conferred upon him.

The progressistas had beaten the ministerial party hollow in the Madrid elections, and the example is one which it was not doubted would be followed in the provinces. The final result is not yet known, but from what is known, it is evident that the triumph of the progressistas is much more complete than they themselves ever expected. Letters of the 13th state that, in consequence of the triumph of the progressista candidates, it was reported that the ministry had resolved to dissolve the Cortes. The signal defeat they have sustained at Madrid has placed them in a position of great difficulty.

The progressista party, though not very boisterous or violent in the measures they have hitherto adopted, are proceeding like men who feel that they have the power of acting effectually whenever they see that it is their interest to do so. A great number of the progressista deputies have left Madrid for the provinces which they represent, and they have commenced issuing addresses to their constituents, which, with so fiery a population as that of Spain, and so many real and pressing evils to dwell upon, cannot fail of having a powerful effect.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

FRENCH CONQUESTS IN ALGERIA.—An amateur of statistics has calculated, that since 1830, the epoch of the conquest of Algeria, the French troops have conquered 3,184 tribes, captured 18,720,400 sheep, 3,604,000 oxen, and 1,917,320 camels and horses.

DEBATE ON SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS.—The *New York Herald* gives a very graphic description of a debate that took place in Congress on the 22nd ult., on the proposal of Massachusetts to admit all free men, black and white, to the electoral franchise. We transcribe as large a portion of it as our space will allow. The resolutions were introduced by the veteran Quincy Adams. After describing a little preliminary scuffling, the report goes on:—

Preston King (a short, fat, good-natured man): Mr Speaker, what is the business before the House? [great laughter].

Speaker: The disposal of the Massachusetts resolutions.

King: Is that debateable?

Speaker: No, sir.

King: Then I object [roars of laughter].

Mr Adams: Yesterday, sir, gentlemen consumed two hours in a most interesting manner debating this; I wish to say a few words to those gentlemen [laughter; cries of "Oh yes," "Let him go on," "Hear him," "No, no"].

King: I object sir [laughter, and great noise and confusion].

Cave Johnson: Several gentlemen wish to debate it.

King: I object, sir [increased laughter].

Davis (of New York): I wish to say something on this subject.

King: You do? Very well, I object [laughter, and many members rose to the floor at once, and all tried to speak; and, for two or three minutes, there was something approximating the confusion at the tower of Babel].

Speaker: If it gives rise to debate, it must lie over.

Adams: Sir, it has lain over me one day already [laughter]. Now, if it is to lie over every time it gives rise to debate, it will lie over, and over, and over, to the end of time, if this house lasts as long [screams of laughter, and cries of "Oh, for heaven's sake, let the old man go on, he'll worry us out"].

Clingman: I move the gentleman from Massachusetts have leave to speak.

Adams (in a peculiar tone of voice): Thank you, sir [much laughter].

Belser: I move to lay the resolutions on the table.

C. J. Ingersoll: What! lay the resolutions of a sovereign state on the table? [cries of "Oh, no, no!" "Go on," "Question," and at least thirty members up, all talking at the top pitch of their tongues].

Hudson: Why, sir, yesterday four or five of the majority here were allowed to debate this; and now, are none of the minority to be allowed to reply? [cries of "Oh, no, that won't do," and great excitement].

Speaker: The chair so decides [considerable sensation].

Belser: I withdraw the motion, so as to allow the gentleman from Massachusetts to speak [cries of "Good"].

Speaker: The house must suspend the rules before he can be allowed to proceed.

Winthrop: I call for a suspension of the rules then, sir.

Giddings: And I demand the ayes and noes on that motion.

A voice: Good! go it! It will never do to give it up so, Mr Brown [laughter].

The ayes and noes were called. Ayes 123, noes 46.

So two-thirds voting in the affirmative, the rules were suspended to allow Mr Adams to proceed.

Upon this, the eloquent old man rose in his might, calm, but most imposing in his manner, his venerable form dilating with honest pride, and his lightning-like eye, grey hair, and bold forehead, presenting a most picturesque appearance, whilst the members of the house, young and old, crowded into the arena in front to listen to him.

Speaker: Gentlemen will please to take their seats.

Adams: Sir, as to what committee it pleases the house to send these resolutions to I care not—to the judiciary, or to a select committee. I have done my duty in presenting them, and urging their reference. That's all I have to say on that subject, sir [laughter]. But I haven't done, Mr Speaker [increased laughter]. I have a word or two to say to the gentlemen who replied to me yesterday [almost breathless silence]. The gentleman from Virginia (Wise) said that from this day forth, for ever, he should cease the war, which he and his friends have carried on for seven or eight years against these petitions, and he called the attention of all of the reporters to the declaration of war which he meant to make in another place, before his constituents. And this called up the gentleman from South Carolina (Holmes), who, with all the high and lofty feelings of southern chivalry, for which he and his friends are so celebrated [laughter], said that he would renew the war in this house—he would sound the tocsin, buckle on his armour, sling on his sword, and, for aught I know, gird up his loins like the giant of old [great laughter; for Holmes, though a noble, high-spirited, brave man, is a very small one in stature]. To carry on the war, sir. The war! With whom? The citizens of our common country! Our own brethren and sisters! Bound together by one holy bond of interest, affection, and the sacred ties of kindred! [immense sensation all over the house.] Sir, the gentleman from Virginia (Wise) said what was true, and what was very proper. This is not the place for the battle. Sir, this is not the place for a battle of any kind. It is a place for solemn deliberation—for the interchange of thought and mind, in harmony between friends and brothers; for we are all brothers of one blessed family, having no interests at heart, no desires to attain, no objects to achieve, but the common good of our common country [great sensation, and the members noiselessly drew up around the old man]. And although the gentleman from Virginia (Wise) will no longer occupy the post—the military post [laughter]—which he has so long occupied—aye, commanded—in this house; yet, in resigning it, he never did anything so wise in his life [roars of laughter]. Sir, the position is not tenable. The country will no longer support it; and, therefore, the gentleman has at last held out the wise signal of surrender [increased laughter]. And to God Almighty be all glory! [tremendous sensation.] The people never will sustain those who kick their petitions out of doors [laughter]. And, sir, a word to the gentleman from South Carolina, though he is now armed *cap-a-pie* [much laughter]. I hope, sir, that he'll come to his senses, take off his redoubtable armour, and even take off his renowned sword [laughter]. Yes, sir, even though his sword be as celebrated as that famous sword of Durindara, that achieved so many wonderful things in fable [roars of laughter]—though it may be capable of performing as many wonders as that of Orlando Inamorato or Furioso [here the members literally screamed with laughter, and Mr Holmes, and even the Speaker, joined] that we read of in ancient times; because this is not the place for it; and because they who use the sword shall perish by the sword; and because they said that they would stand by the constitution. Sir, they hold out a threat of battle to the north; and yet they said, in the same breath, that they would stand by the union. Now, sir, I believe that I understand and love the constitution of my country; and I yield to no man in my pure, deep, and abiding love for this great union. Sir, I am no incendiary, no factionist, no abolitionist; nor do I belong, nor am I in any way connected with any society of abolitionists, as that term is usually understood. In one sense of this word I am an abolitionist—I am one in the same way that Thomas Jefferson was an abolitionist, when, in his seventy-seventh year, he deliberately put on paper that "sooner or later the abolition of slavery in this country must come, and the sooner the better." These were Thomas Jefferson's opinions in his seventy-seventh year, and these are mine now—I believe the abolition of slavery in this country will come, but not in my time! Still I hope the day will come when slavery shall be a word without meaning in the English language—when there shall be no such thing as a slave in the world [great sensation all over the house]. Then will be the time when the lion shall lie down with the lamb; and one man shall say unto another, "Thou art my brother!" The time declared by Jesus Christ, when on earth, when man shall rise to an elevation akin to the divine nature, and peace, and happiness, and truth, and love, shall cover the earth as the waters cover the great deep! [It is impossible to describe the effect of this on the House—the tears actually stood in the eyes of many of the members, and all were intensely silent.] In no other sense am I an abolitionist. I depend on none of them. I hold communication with but few of them. But, sir, I have as warm and ardent patriotism as any man, and as deep and abiding love of country as any man in this hall, though I wear no sword [laughter]. I receive my opinions from no man. I hold my opinions from God, and my own judgment—I hold my opinions from the Declaration of Independence, which, I believe, still hangs in this hall (looking round to the spot where it hung immediately behind him), although some gentlemen, in their wisdom and ardent patriotism, yesterday wanted to kick out of this hall a request for the security of its first principles [laughter]. I do not agree with these abolition petitioners in the course they pursue; for I believe they thereby retard the period of universal emancipation. Sir, I wish this union to last for ever, firm, bright, and unsullied by a cloud. And, as one of the means to secure that blessing, I wish for the abolition of slavery—peaceably and quietly—and by the will of the slaveholders themselves! I wish to make no idle and insignificant declarations here, sir, or elsewhere. I wish not to interfere with the rights and interests of the South—and the resolutions of the state of Massachusetts do not claim or ask that right. Sir, when I presented a petition for the peaceable dissolution of the union, I was arraigned as a culprit—a degraded criminal—charged with constructive treason—perjury—subornation of perjury—and I know not what else. And for what? For presenting a petition to this house, which

one of your rules says shall not be received! Sir, if you had abolished that odious rule at the commencement of this session, you would have done more to preserve this union than anything else you could do. Sir, the gentleman from Ohio (Weller) said he would fight in this war against the abolitionists, and also said he represented the feelings of his constituents in so doing. Will he say, sir, that he represents the views of the people of Ohio on that subject? No, sir, no! He will say no such thing; for he does not—he cannot. But when I moved the other day to abolish that odious rule, thirteen out of the eighteen members from Ohio voted with me; and they were fresh from the people! Twenty-seven out of thirty-two from New York voted with me [a voice cried out “Thirty-four”]. Yes, sir, thirty-four, but two were conveniently absent [laughter]. And twelve out of twenty members from Pennsylvania voted with me, although the peace-maker was not one of ‘em [roars of laughter at this sarcastic allusion to Mr C. J. Ingersoll’s remark of yesterday]. Twelve out of twenty from Pennsylvania—Pennsylvania, whose motto in the days of her virtue [bitterly sarcastic] was virtue, truth, and independence. Sir, the people of the state of Ohio detest that odious rule! I have been among them lately, and when I was coming away to my duties here, they took leave of me as of a child going to the home of his fathers, because they said I was the champion, upon this floor, of the right of petition! Sir, it is the ground on which I have stood in this house, and upon which I will ever stand, for the few short days or months which it may please the Almighty to allow me to exert the poor abilities and faculties which he has bestowed upon me—it is the ground upon which I desire to stand on this earth after my death—upon the page of my country’s history—and I will stand upon that ground hereafter before the judgment seat of the God of mercy, for any sins I may have committed in the flesh!

Language fails to describe the extraordinary effect which this speech had upon the members. All listened with intense admiration, the house was as still (except this voice) as the grave, and the tears trickled down the cheeks of many an old and young member; and one southern man, worked up to a pitch of enthusiasm, when Mr Adams closed, as above, cried out, “By G—d, he’s a noble old scoundrel, after all!”

The remainder of his remarks were almost of an entirely colloquial character, with Mr Holmes and Mr French, of Kentucky.

After another scene, on a smaller scale, between some of the belligerent members, the motion for laying the resolutions on the table was lost by 104 to 64. They were then referred to a select committee of nine members.

MONTÉ VIDEO.—The long-continued blockade of Monté Video by the forces of Rosas, from Buenos Ayres, has been productive of great loss to British merchants, to whom an account is out-standing by those of Monté Video, which, we believe, is stated accurately at half a million sterling. Our correspondent observes that, if the present state of things be allowed to continue in the river Plate, and more especially at Monté Video, it must ruin the majority, if not the whole, of the merchants engaged in that trade.—*Morning Chronicle.*

TOTAL LOSS OF THE SHIP PHOENIX IN A SNOW STORM.—The following painfully interesting narrative of a shipwreck, near the coast of Newfoundland, is given in a letter to the owner of the vessel, residing at Scarborough:—

“*St Peter’s, Coast of Newfoundland, Dec. 13.*

“SIR—It is with feelings of deep regret that the painful task devolves upon me of announcing to you the total loss of your fine vessel, the *Phoenix*, attended, I lament to state, with the sacrifice of several of her crew, after enduring the greatest privations, consequent upon extreme cold, off the Langley Islands. To prevent ourselves being washed overboard, we lashed each other to the most secure spars on deck. About nine o’clock a female passenger expired on deck from the exposure to the cold, which was very intense, and which added much to our sufferings. The sea by this time had torn away the bulwark rails, and the vessel then laid almost motionless. Shortly after the surf swept away the jolly boat from out of the long boat on deck, and, singular to state, turned on her keel in the sea, and eventually floated safe ashore. This was the only boat out of the three that was saved, for almost instantly afterwards the skiff was washed out of the long boat, and turned bottom up in the sea. All means of our escape was now apparently at an end, for the long boat stood in a fair way of also being washed overboard by the sea, and all had their eyes turned upon her, anxious to save life. The waves were beating heavily over her, and a poor seaman instantly jumped into her in order to make a rope fast, so that if she should be swept away she would be still made fast to the ship. While this man was performing this gallant action, away went the long boat overboard with him in her, ‘clear, right clear,’ of the vessel. We now considered that our hours were numbered, and the men made the best of their way into the long boat, I along with them; but on getting forward and perceiving that the boat was already stove in, I thought it more prudent, for the preservation of my life, to return to the wreck. Notwithstanding my caution that the craft was not seaworthy, six men, with the mate, Mr Thomas Smith, and a boy, got into her, although by this time she was fast filling with water. I entreated them to return, but they took not the least heed of my entreaties, and kept singing out to the rest of the crew that were on the wreck, to follow their example, and let go the painter. The men, however, being nearly perished with cold, felt no disposition to move—either to get into the boat, or to unloosen the rope, and the mate immediately cut it, and away she went to the lee of the ill-fated ship, without a single oar to conduct her through the boiling surf. The first wave that struck the boat completely turned her bottom upwards, and the whole of the unfortunate fellows (eight in number) in her, immediately perished within fifteen yards of the wreck. The six that now remained on board took refuge in the after-companion, but from this spot we were soon roused by the ship beginning to part asunder, viz., the deck parting from the larboard side, after carrying with it the starboard side. We saved ourselves in a truly miraculous manner; about twenty-five feet of the deck, abaft the windlass, parted from the wreck, and upon that, after some trouble, we placed ourselves, and which floated us through a tremendous sea safe ashore.

“**RICHARD TURNER.**”

MADAME CATALANI STILL ALIVE!—FLORENCE, JAN. 9.—The recent account, copied by German journals from the *Journal des Débats*, respecting the alleged death of the celebrated Angelica Catalani at her villa near Sinigaglia, proves to be quite erroneous. It appears that, on the contrary, she is at present in her beautiful villa in the neighbourhood of our city, and is in the best state of health that could be expected with reference to her advanced age.

A GENUINE COOL YANKEEISM.—The anniversary of the landing of the pilgrim brothers was celebrated by the “New England Society” in New York, on the 22nd ult. Mr Aldam, the member for Leeds, was amongst the guests, and had his health proposed by Mr Webster, for which he returned suitable thanks. It is a custom at American public dinners for the guests to volunteer occasional toasts; amongst those which followed the health of the honourable member for Leeds, we find the following proposed, according to the report, “by a guest, whose name we are sorry we could not learn; ‘The Rev. Sidney Smith and his Pennsylvania bonds—when parsons dabble in stocks they are sure to be turned into laughing-stocks.’”

EXTRAORDINARY CHESS-PLAY.—In the last number of the *Palamede*, the chess magazine, which appears each month at Paris under the auspices of M. St Amant, we find the following:—“A French artist, lately returned from the north of Europe, declares that he saw M. Wagstrom, of Stockholm, play six games of chess at the same time against first-rate amateurs, without seeing the board. This is double what is attributed to Phillidor, and triple what we ourselves beheld Labourdonnais do. M. Wagstrom, it is said, intends in the course of the year coming to Paris, and beating the whole of the celebrities of the Café de la Régence together, without seeing either players or board.”

VOLCANIC ERUPTION AT THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—We have been favoured, says the *Auburn* (U. S.) *Journal*, with the following extract from a letter from the Rev. Titus Coan, dated Hilo (Sandwich Islands), May 16, 1843:—

“God is not only working wonders in the moral and civil, but also in the physical world around us. You have heard of the great volcanic eruption near our station in 1840. Another scene of a similar kind has recently taken place about the same distance from us, but in a different direction, and directly in the rear of our station. On the 10th of January, of the present year, just at the dawn of day, we discovered a rapid disengagement of liquid fire from near the summit of Manna Loa, at an elevation of 14,000 feet above the sea. This eruption increased from day to day for several weeks, pouring out vast floods of fiery lava, which spread down the side of the mountain, and flowed off in broad and burning rivers, throwing a terrific glare upon the heavens, and filling those lofty mountainous regions with a sheen of light. This spectacle continued from week to week, without any abatement, till the molten flood had progressed 20 or 30 miles down the side of the mountain, and across a high plain which stretches between the bases of Manna Loa and Manna Kea. It was not till after many weeks that I was able to visit this scene of terror and sublimity. At length, in company with Mr Paris, the missionary for Kan (a station south of Hilo), I made the attempt. We penetrated through a deep forest, stretching between Hilo and the mountain, and reached the molten stream as it flowed over those vast and high regions lying at the base of the mountain. Here we were able to approach the fiery stream, and dip up and cool its burning fluid, as we would approach the banks of a river and take of its waters. From this we followed the stream to the top of the mountain, and found its source in a vast crater, amidst the eternal snows of those wild and desolated regions. Down the sides of the mountain the lava had now ceased to flow upon the surface; but it had formed for itself a subterranean duct, at the depth of fifty or one hundred feet. This duct was encased with vitrification, as smooth as glass, and down this fearful channel a river of fire was rushing at the rate of fifteen or twenty miles an hour, from the summit to the foot of the mountain. This subterranean stream we saw distinctly through several large apertures in the side of the mountain, while the burning flood rushed fearfully beneath our feet. Our standing above it was like standing upon ice on a river, while the liquid flood flows under your feet. Our visit was attended with peril and inconceivable fatigue, but we never regretted having made it, and we returned deeply affected with the majesty, the sublimity, the power, and the love of that God who ‘looketh on the earth and it trembleth, who touches the hills and they smoke; whose presence melts the hills, and whose look causes the mountains to flow down.’”

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN THE DUTCH COLONIES.—A society has been formed at Utrecht, composed of several professors of the university, and other notable persons, for inquiring into the condition of the slave population in the colonies, with the view of abolishing slavery in the shortest period possible.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—At the last weekly meeting of the National Association, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—

Resolved—“That the conduct of the ministerial officials in Ireland, in striking off the Irish Catholics from the jury list, is a flagrant act of injustice, and, in the opinion of this meeting, ought to be resented by all those who are not in favour of a state church and irresponsible ministers.”

LONDON PEACE SOCIETY.—A lecture was delivered in the Finsbury Institution for Sunday School Teachers on the 15th of January, by Mr Rigaud, on the evils of war, and its inconsistency with the spirit of Christianity. A deep impression appeared to be produced. The members testified their approbation, and passed a unanimous vote of thanks to the lecturer.

FOREIGN PROVISIONS.—On Wednesday last there was a private show of foreign provisions at the sale-room of Messrs Keeling and Co., Monument yard,

previous to the public sale. Several members of parliament, and official gentlemen connected with the Board of Trade victualing department, of the navy, and Hudson’s Bay Company, &c., were present. Amongst the number were Mr Hume, M.P., Dr Bowring, M.P., Hon. Mr Villiers, M.P., Mr M’Gregor, of the Board of Trade, Mr Pattison, M.P. for London, and several merchants and bankers interested in the trade of London. The visitors tasted samples of the new importations, and compared them with those of last year. There was an evident improvement in the selection of qualities and the care manifested in curing. The specimens exhibited were pronounced as well adapted, not only for ships’ stores, but for the home market. The American hams and cheese called forth especial approbation; the latter was declared by competent judges as equal to the best produce of the English dairies.

EDUCATION IN LONDON.—The following return in the city of London comprises a population of about one million. There are 280 charity schools for the education of the poor, and 1,164 private schools. The scholars are 58,861 (35,928 in charity schools, and 22,933 in the private schools). The attention of the committee was chiefly directed to the private schools for the education of the poor. Every one must be familiar with the fact that a very large portion of our population is intrusted to the care of individuals who have been induced to undertake the office of teacher from their inability to support themselves in any other way. Men who, by misfortune or imprudence, have become reduced in their circumstances, frequently have recourse to the office of schoolmaster to obtain a livelihood; and females who have become widows, as a last resource, open a dame’s school. The common day schools and the dames’ schools are kept by persons of this description. This is the case in every town throughout the kingdom. But to give an idea of the extent to which this system is carried on, we may remark that in London there are 1,164 schools of this kind, containing 22,933 scholars, of whom 10,601 are boys, and 12,332 are girls. In the dames’ schools the amount of weekly payments for a child never exceeds 8d., the average sum throughout London is 5d. In the common day schools the average rate of remuneration is from 10½d. to 11d. We have then 23,000 children in the great centre of civilisation receiving a most inferior education, from individuals devoid of all qualification; for out of 500 who were asked whether they had been brought up to the employment of teacher, only 126 answered in the affirmative; and of 540 who were asked whether they had any other occupation than their school, 260 answered that they kept a shop, or took in washing or needlework; the rest answered that they had no other occupation than their schools.—*The Zoist.*

COMMON COUNCIL.—A court was held on Thursday, when the time was chiefly occupied in appointing the standing committees for the ensuing year. Mr R. L. Jones brought up a report from the London Bridge Approaches Committee, requiring the sum of £50,000 to complete improvements; which was agreed to. Mr Well’s petition against the return for Farringdon Without was presented, and laid on the table.

ENLISTMENT OF PAUPER CHILDREN.—At the meeting of the directors and guardians of the poor of St Marylebone, on Thursday, a conversation ensued relative to the letter of Mr Wheeler on the enlistment of pauper children, which appeared in our last number. Several parties expressed their disbelief that pauper children were enlisted as drummers for life. Eventually the following resolution was carried:—“That the secretary write to the military authorities at Chatham, and other places, and ascertain upon what terms the children enlisted from Marylebone had entered the army.”

THE LATE WILL FORGERIES.—The examination into these cases was resumed on Monday, at the Mansion house, and a fresh charge was brought against the prisoners Fletcher and Barber, and Mrs Georgiana Dorey. It appears that John Stewart, a gardener, at Great Marlow, who died in 1827, had, at the time of his death, £51 per annum long annuities, but left no relatives or will. The property was, therefore, transferred to the commissioners of the national debt. The prisoners, Barber and Fletcher, solicitors, having obtained a knowledge of the fact, made the requisite inquiries respecting the deceased, his manner of life, habits, &c., and induced Mrs Richards, mother of Mrs Dorey, late Miss Richards, to pass herself off as a sister of John Stewart, who had been living in America; and by the production of false certificates, succeeded in obtaining the money. The principal witness was Thomas Griffin, Gray street, Manchester square, tailor, who deposed, that he became bondsman for Jane Stewart (John Stewart’s pretended sister) at the Stamp office, in the matter of the will, which he had signed without knowing its contents, and that, through Mrs Richards’ (alias Janet Stewart) defalcation, he had an application from the Stamp office to redeem his bond. Neither from Mrs Richards nor Messrs Barber and Fletcher could he obtain redress or satisfaction. The prisoners were finally remanded until Friday, for the production of further evidence.

Mrs Dorey, the female whose examination and remand on the charge of having lent a hand in the perpetration of the extensive will forgeries, in which Messrs Barber and Fletcher played the principal parts, was formerly, we perceive by the London papers, a Miss Richards, and is the person who recovered from the *Rev.* Robert Taylor, as he called himself, the infidel lecturer, £250 for breach of promise of marriage. Joshua Fletcher, another party charged with participation in the fraud, was one of the principal witnesses on the trial. It appears that Miss Richards had formed a political acquaintance with the late notorious Richard Carlile,

and on her family becoming reduced in circumstances was employed by Carlile as door keeper, or money taker, at the Rotunda, where Taylor used to deliver his lectures, and where, from the frequent opportunities he had of seeing her, he became smitten with her personal and intellectual charms.

Postscript.

Wednesday, January 24th, 1844.

THE STATE TRIALS.—At the sitting of the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday morning, Chief Justice Pennefather announced that Mr Justice Burton was suffering from a severe cold, and was unable to attend. Counsel for the traversers desired that a note of his lordship's absence should be taken, as they held that the trial, being one at bar, could not proceed without the full court. The objection was, however, overruled. The trial was then resumed, and some of the printed documents, held over from Saturday, were put in as evidence. James Thackeray, a lithographic printer, proved the printing of the cards of associates, members, and volunteers, by order of Mr Holbrooke, in whose employment he was at the time. He also stated that he had seen Mr Ray, and others of the traversers, at Holbrooke's office, suggesting alterations in the designs of the cards while the work was in progress. An apprentice of Mr Holbrooke proved the delivery of the cards at the Corn Exchange. John Ulick Macnamara was next examined, and proved that he had attended the repeal meeting at Tullamore, that he had taken a shorthand note of the speeches, portions of which he had transcribed, but the short-hand notes were destroyed. He also read long extracts from the speech of Mr O'Connell. Whilst the witness was reading, the Attorney-general rose, soon after one o'clock, and stated that two of the traversers (Mr O'Connell and Mr Steele) had left the court to attend a meeting. The Crown could not possibly consent to such a course as this, and he required that those gentlemen should at once be sent for. Mr Moore, Q.C., said that the traversers wished not to seek any accommodation without the consent of the Crown, and the gentlemen alluded to should be sent for. Those gentlemen returned to court about twenty minutes past one, and resumed their usual places. The examination of the witness was resumed. He stated that he had seen various placards on the day of meeting, on one of which were inscribed the words—"Ireland, her parliament, or the world in a blaze." A juror, Mr Rigby, asked—Was that placard at the meeting, or in another part of the town? The witness replied, "It was in another part of the town." The cross-examination of this witness, who stated that he had been for some time employed on a provincial paper, occupied a considerable time. John Simpson Stewart, a sub-inspector of the constabulary police, was the next witness. He stated that he was present at the Tullamore meeting, attending to his duty as an officer of police; that on the morning it took place a vast number of persons came into the town, besides the ordinary residents, amounting to several thousands; and that, in the exercise of his duty, he went round to make his observations as to what he should see. He also deposed to various passages from the speech of Mr O'Connell. Mr Neal Browne, resident magistrate of Tullamore, was also examined upon the same points, and, at the conclusion of his evidence, which was not material. James Johnson, head of the Sligo constabulary, was called, and examined relative to the proceedings at the great meeting at Longford, on the 29th of May. The witness deposed to the assembling of the people with banners, &c., and to Mr O'Connell's defiance of Peel and Wellington, and his denunciations of the "Saxon." After the cross-examination of this witness, the court adjourned till the following day. The Dublin correspondent of the *Morning Advertiser* supplies the following interesting particulars:—

"It is supposed that the Attorney-general will bring the case for the Crown to a close about Thursday or Friday next. It is said that Mr Henn will not speak for the traversers, in consequence of being briefed with his senior, Mr Richard Moore, the late Solicitor-general. This will be a great loss to the traversers, and a great disappointment to the public, who expected a splendid display of argument and eloquence from the eminent advocate. He is, however, unremitting in his attention, and takes a very active part in all questions of law which arise in the course of the proceedings. The order of the speakers will, we understand, be as follows:—Mr Sheil, M.P., will open for Mr John O'Connell; next Mr Moore, for the Rev. Mr Tierney; Mr Whiteside, Queen's counsel, for Mr Duffy; Mr Fitzgibbon, Queen's counsel, for Dr Gray; Mr McDonogh, Queen's counsel, for Mr Barrett; Mr Hatchell, Queen's counsel, for Mr Ray. Mr O'Connell will close this formidable array of forensic power, and, as you may infer, on his own behalf, but of course will not confine himself to a mere personal defence. The hon. and learned gentleman will go into the entire case of the traversers and the association, and it is generally supposed, will occupy two sitting days of the court in the delivery of his address. He sits under the Clerk of the Crown each day, and devotes himself exclusively to the perusal of documents relating to his defence. Mr Henn co-operates with the member for Cork in taking copious notes of the evidence.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The weekly meeting of the National Repeal Association was held at the Conciliation hall, Corn Exchange, on this day; and, in consequence of the expected presence of Mr Smith O'Brien, M.P., was much crowded. That gentleman was called to the chair, and delivered a long and effective speech, particularly on the pending state trials. He concluded by impressing strongly on the association the necessity of conciliating their protestant fellow-countrymen who had not yet joined them, and promised his hearty co-operation in forwarding the cause in which they were embarked.

Mr O'Connell, who attended the meeting for about twenty minutes, but was compelled to return to the court of Queen's Bench, briefly addressed the association, and brought forward two propositions for their consideration. One was the establishment of catholic societies in every town throughout Ireland, to be continued until the Roman catholics were put upon a perfect equality with their fellow-subjects of other persuasions, in regard to the important privilege of trial by jury; and the second was a suggestion to the liberal constituencies throughout Ireland to call upon their representatives to absent themselves from parliament during the ensuing session, unless, to use his own words, "necessity arose of using the privilege which they possessed of impeding by what is called factious divisions of the house any measure brought forward to crush still more the liberties of Ireland, and in such an event his fervent desire would be to be in parliament himself to join in the battle," and to continue their exertions exclusively to the advancement of the repeal cause in Ireland. Mr Caleb Powell, M.P., Mr John O'Connell, M.P., and other gentlemen, also addressed the association. The repeal rent for the week was announced to be £396 19s. 7d.

GENERAL EDUCATION.—The first public meeting of the dissenters of the metropolis, for the purpose of carrying out the resolutions for general education, adopted at the conference of the congregational churches of England and Wales, was held on Monday at Craven chapel, Carnaby market, Charles Hindley, M.P., in the chair. Among the speakers were, Mr James, of Birmingham; Mr Burnet, of Camberwell; Dr Leifchild, and Dr Reed. It was stated that £22,771 10s. had been raised by independent. A list of subscriptions from gentlemen present was read, which amounted to £1,600. We hope to give a longer report of the meeting next week.

BRITISH SCHOOLS, HALSTED, ESSEX.—A public meeting was convened in this town, on the evening of Wednesday, the 17th inst, for the purpose of considering the propriety of establishing schools on the British system. The meeting was respectably and numerously attended, nearly 400 persons being present. S. COURTAULD, Esq., was called to the chair, and opened the business of the evening by an eloquent and talented speech, on the importance of education, and the many privileges it confers on the working classes. Several resolutions were carried, and the assembly addressed by Messrs Prout, Clements, and Johnson, dissenting ministers, and by other gentlemen present. A committee was formed to superintend the establishment, and conduct the operations of the projected schools; and a president, vice-president, and other officers, were elected. At the close of the meeting, some of the gentlemen came forward and liberally put down their names for donations and subscriptions to the amount of upwards of £160.

METROPOLITAN DRAPERS' ASSOCIATION.—The second annual meeting of this association, the object of which is to shorten the hours of business in the shops of the metropolis, by closing them at 7 o'clock, was held yesterday evening in the great room at Exeter Hall, under the presidency of Mr Emerson Tennent, M.P. The hall was densely crowded in every part. The report of the Central Committee was read at length, and elicited loud plaudits. It stated that, notwithstanding the disappointments and the many difficulties which at the outset had to be encountered and overcome, an amount of success had been achieved in the past year far beyond what any previous efforts in the cause had been able to attain. By the exertions made by the committee the "evening trade" in London had materially decreased; and they referred with satisfaction to the example which many leading establishments had set in closing at 7 o'clock—an example which had been followed in Liverpool, Manchester, and other large towns. Resolutions laudatory of the association, and pledging the meeting to exertions in its support, were proposed and carried unanimously; and the interests of the society were ably advocated by the chairman, Mr Hindley, M.P., Mr Cumming, Mr Hughes, Dr Reid, Mr Hitchcock, of St Paul's Churchyard, and several other large employers. The proceedings did not terminate until half-past eleven o'clock.

BUCKINGHAM CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.—The annual dinner of this association took place yesterday, when the Duke of Buckingham presided, and the members for the county and about 350 persons were present. The most striking feature of the meeting was bitter and unmitigated abuse of the Anti-corn-law League, which supplied a fruitful topic of oratorical display to each speaker in succession. Ministers were dealt with somewhat better than usual, but were solemnly cautioned against any further advances in the principles of free-trade, and reminded who placed them in office. The meeting had not concluded when the report left Buckingham.

ANTI-LEAGUE MEETINGS.—The most important meeting that has yet been held in opposition to the League took place on Monday, when about a thousand tenant farmers assembled at the George inn, Northampton, together with Lord Southampton and the county members. Mr Pain, the Duke of Buccleuch's agent, had authority from his own lips to deny that he had declared himself favourable to a free trade in corn. The various speakers emulated one another in their coarse abuse of the League. "Pot-house meetings," "destroyers of property," "a pestiferous society," "ragamuffins," "diabolical conspiracy," are a few of the choice expressions used by the "gentlemanly" orators, in connexion

with the Anti-corn-law League. The following allusion was made to Lord John Russell's visits to Earl Spencer by a Mr Cartwright:—"It certainly is a subject to be commented on, the number of visits recently paid by him to this neighbourhood [hear, hear]. It really seems as if something was brewing [loud cries of "Hear"]. I hope the noble lord's visit will do Lord Spencer some good; for if it be true that first impressions are the most lasting and the most correct, it is possible that Lord John Russell may remind himself of his first impressions, and thus modify those which Lord Spencer has recently expressed" [loud cheers]. Lord Southampton said—We want the ministers to declare themselves, and I say they ought to be made to do so [loud cheers]. All shuffling ought to be out of the question [hear]. I am all for declaring myself, and I hope that the numbers of meetings taking place in all parts of the kingdom will make the ministers declare themselves, and then we shall know the worst [hear]. About £1,000 was collected at the meeting, including £100 from the Duke of Buccleuch. On Monday a meeting was held at Waltham, Leicestershire, with a similar object. Letters of excuse were read from Lord Charles Manners, Mr Christopher Turnor, M.P., the Hon. Stuart Wortley, and the Hon. Mr Wilson, who expressed their disapprobation of the course pursued by the League, and their best wishes for the success of the plan to be adopted by the meeting. A committee of twenty-one persons was appointed.

Queen Christina of Spain intends, if we are not misinformed, to leave Paris before the close of this week on her return to Madrid.—*Times*.

DEATH OF SIR FRANCIS BURDETT.—This once notorious radical reformer died yesterday at his residence, St James's place, only a few days after the death of his wife. We make one or two extracts from a sketch of his life and character in the *Morning Chronicle*:—

If Sir Francis Burdett was not precisely a "demagogue," in the ordinary acceptance of the word, his vanity was the moving principle which animated him in all his public life; it was his stimulus and incentive in youth and middle age, and proved the rock on which his character and reputation were wrecked at last. By birth and education a gentleman, his position in society gave him weight and popularity with the mass of the people, of whose cause and rights he appeared the chivalrous advocate, while his conduct and manners, bold, frank, and fascinating, redeemed his self-devotion to popular rights from the imputation of being actuated by the impulses of a mere coarse and vulgar envy. Yet, long before the true character of Sir Francis Burdett was understood by the bulk of those whose admiration was the "breath of his nostrils," he was thoroughly appreciated by closer observers; and more than one acute critic predicted of him, even in his days of greatest notoriety, that the red-hot radical would, in all probability, die a flaming tory.

His parliamentary contests—his friendship and quarrel with Cobbett—his alternate repudiation of, and coquetting with, the whigs—his advocacy of catholic emancipation, patronage of, and friendship with, Mr O'Connell, with his subsequent foolish jealousy, and depreciation of him, in a quarrel; these, and other incidents, characteristic of the man, which we have neither time nor space to record, we must pass over.

After the great questions to which he "hooked" himself had been carried—such as catholic emancipation, and reform of parliament, especially the last—Sir Francis Burdett was no longer a "man of the people." Something should be allowed for the cooling influence of age—something for the fact that a large portion of what he had advocated during his public life had now been carried. But the true secret was, that he never had the ballast of sound judgment, and never was guided by political principle. That he was sincere, so far as a vain, impulsive man can be sincere, we, perhaps, need not nicely deny; but it was mainly because his craving desire for popularity was thereby gratified, that he adhered to the popular cause; and the same craving thirst for notoriety, aggravated by vanity wounded, threw him into the ranks of the bitterest Tories.

CAMDEN CHAPEL, CAMBERWELL.—On Sunday morning, Mr Henry Melvill, of Camberwell, preached his farewell sermon. The spacious place of worship was densely crowded, and hundreds were compelled to retire, unable to obtain admission within its doors.

THE AUTHOR OF THE "PENNY POSTAGE."—The editor of the *Inquirer* requests the numerous and influential newspapers throughout the country, with which he has the honour of exchanging, to aid him in promoting a just expression of public gratitude to Mr Rowland Hill. We cheerfully respond to the appeal. We have repeatedly recommended the presentation to Mr Hill of some testimonial to his merits, and are persuaded that it would be readily awarded, if the opportunity of doing so were afforded to the public. It is suggested in the *Inquirer* that a postage stamp should be forwarded by the post office from every individual in the empire to a treasurer in London—subscribers sending, if they choose, more stamps than one, to atone for the omission of others. We hope that a committee will be formed in London to carry out this suggestion. Let a "Receiver of Stamps" be at once appointed, and a form of advertisement be sent to every newspaper in the kingdom. It will not only, we are sure, be gratuitously inserted, but editorially backed into the bargain. The Post office, we also think, would forego the postage on the transmitted contributions as a mark of respect to its great reformer.—*Gateshead Observer*.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour
English ..	1530	2540	2120			
Scotch						
Irish		400	4120			
Foreign ..	1920	1680				

No alteration in prices.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. G." We believe the vicar has legal ground for such refusal.
 "Charles Rose." His hint has been attended to.
 The communication from Cheltenham has been received.
 We shall be much obliged to our correspondent for the aid he kindly offers.
 The suggestion of "James Smith" under consideration.
 The packet from Stokesly received with thanks.
 Received for the Convention—
 John Clarke, Ipswich (in stamps), £1.
 George Milner, Duke street, London, 10s.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.
 For 7 lines....5s. 0d. | For 10 lines....6s. 0d.
 For every additional line..... 4d.
 For a half column £1 5s. | For a column...£2 0s.

Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or reference for payment in London.

Orders for the *Nonconformist* are received at the office, and by all booksellers and newsvendors. The terms of subscription, if paid in advance, are £1 6s. per annum. All communications for the Editor should be addressed to the office, No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON : WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24, 1844.

SUMMARY.

THE state trials have at length got under way—the cumbrous machinery of prosecution is at work—a reluctant and shrinking jury has been sworn—and the traversers are now fairly put upon their defence. Never, perhaps, was popular sympathy more cordially, or more openly, with the accused. Their progress to the court of justice was a triumphal procession. The chief magistrate of the city of Dublin carries Mr O'Connell in his state carriage, and the majority of the municipal council follow in his train. The shouts of congregated myriads rend the air, and loud huzzas proclaim that, in the estimation of Ireland, conviction itself will bring with it no disgrace. The sympathy due to justice when enrobed in majesty turns from the judgment seat to the bar. Law, by a process now become familiar to our rulers, is made to wear the semblance of a tyrant; and punishment, which, to secure aught of moral benefit, should carry with it the assent of the wise and good of all parties, will assume the dignity of martyrdom. So impotent is oppression, and so impossible is it even for an oligarchy, strong in all the appliances of office, to change the immutable laws of the human mind, or to overbear the essential nature of things! O'Connell's jury may find him guilty, but O'Connell's country will assert his innocence and maintain his honour. Fine and imprisonment may be awarded to him by the bench; but every shilling taken from him, and every hour of confinement with which he may be visited, will serve to increase the weight and the speed of that retribution which aristocratic misrule is laying up for its patrons.

The speech of the Attorney-general occupied two days. Regarded as an intellectual effort, it suffices not to say that it reaches not to the height of the occasion—it is, in all points of view, a most contemptible performance. It is made up, for the most part, of extracts from the harangues of the traversers, and from the articles of the repeal press, threaded together by interpolations the whole significance of which may be comprehended in the exclamation, "There! gentlemen of the jury, was ever wickedness more flagrant than that?" Considering that every quotation he adduced will hereafter be put in as evidence, he might with equal propriety have omitted the bulk of it, and thus have brought his speech within the dimensions of an hour; or have gone over beforehand his whole stock of proof, and thus have occupied a fortnight instead of two days. Conversant as he must have been with the mass of materials in his possession, we should have imagined it to be his proper work to give a vigorous outline of the conspiracy to the jury—to put into their hands the thread where-with they might, undistracted, hold on their way through the labyrinth of evidence subsequently to be submitted to them—to lay before them a plan of the edifice which he intended to build up, and to bring before them so much only of detail as was absolutely required to illustrate his general design. Had he done this, the multifarious proof which he proposes to adduce, might easily have arranged itself in the minds of the jury—and keeping before them the circumstantial theory (if thus we may term it) of the Attorney-general, they would experience little difficulty in reading the rationale of each item of evidence. As it is, they are likely enough to go into the examination of witnesses, with confused heads, and with jaded attention. They have heard more than enough to bewilder them—they have been told little or nothing to put them on the right scent. We would engage for it, that the only impression abiding on their minds, as the result of Mr Smith's effort, is, that his speech was an intolerably long one, and that it contained numerous quotations from what

the traversers have said or written on the subject of repeal. Our modern Cataline is not denounced by a Cicero.

The moral effect upon the public which the report of this speech will produce, must, we should think, be prejudicial to the government, rather than to the traversers. Undoubtedly, a great many strong expressions, and not a few inconsiderate ones, were culled from the speeches of Mr O'Connell, as well as from articles of the *Pilot* and the *Nation*. But a tory Attorney-general, had any opportunity been offered him, would have found a vein of similar metal, and of a far richer quality, running through the mass of the Reform Bill agitation, and may even yet succeed in getting up as plausible a case against the Anti-corn-law League. Snatches of song, mottoes inscribed on banners, and sentences picked out of popular addresses, severed from all connexion with what may have preceded, what may have followed, or what may have explained them, may serve easily enough to demonstrate a decided hostility to government as at present constituted, but hardly suffice to prove a conspiracy, by means of intimidation, to effect the subversion of the laws and institutions of the realm. Mr Smith pledged himself to lay bare "as wicked and as foul a conspiracy as ever threatened the safety of a great empire," and lo! he has produced nothing but what society has been familiar with for many months. In the words of a correspondent of the *Dublin Evening Post*, the conspiracy turns up to be "extracts from the speeches of Mr O'Connell for the last six months—extracts from the newspapers of the day—references to the *Press* newspaper of 1796 and 1797—the report of the secret committee of the Irish House of Commons of 1798—a statement that people were sober in 1797, and that Father Mathew, without intending conspiracy, made them sober in 1843—a defence of Mr Saurin, Mr Bushe, and Lord Plunkett, for having made such horrible statements against the Union—the speeches of Lord Althorpe and Spring Rice—a few quotations from Bushe's speeches—argal, O'Connell is guilty of a foul, vile, and base conspiracy. This is an analysis of the first stage of the great state trials."

The examination of witnesses commenced on Thursday, and up to Saturday evening but five had given in their evidence. Of these, the first was Frederick Bond Hughes, a reporter employed by government. With the substance of the matters he deposed to—the speeches of Mr O'Connell and the other traversers at the "monster meetings," repeal dinners, and meetings of the association—the public are already acquainted. It appears, however, that the gentleman, although known as a government reporter, was, in every instance, most readily accommodated, admission to the meetings having been always secured to him, copies of resolutions and addresses having been furnished him, and every facility extended to him for accomplishing his task. The "conspiracy" was, therefore, a remarkably open one—a conspiracy, in fact, of the Irish people, to throw off the thralldom which oligarchical rule has imposed upon them. Henry Matthias Latham, the assistant of Mr Hughes, deposed to nothing very material. Mr Charles Ross, a reporter for the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Standard*, and the government, who took *verbatim* notes only when he deemed the matters spoken of sufficient importance, and "topical" notes of whatever else he reported, and who confined himself chiefly to the speeches of Mr O'Connell, furnished some corroboration of the evidence given by Mr Hughes; but, in his cross-examination, brought no great credit to the Crown. Then came Mr John Jackson, reporter for the *Morning Herald*, who admitted that he had been in the habit of making his reports "spicy," that he did not write short-hand, and that his communications to his employers were usually a sort of tessellated work, made up of what he could crib from the notes of other reporters, and what he cut out of the morning papers published on the day following the respective meeting. It is probable that his evidence will be expunged. The printer of the association, Mr John Browne, was then examined to prove various documents, such as addresses of the association, instructions to repeal wardens, &c., as having been printed by him. The reception of these documents, as evidence, was opposed on the ground that they were not included in the bill of particulars furnished to the traversers by the Crown, but the opposition was over-ruled by the court.

Turning now from these state trials to the more general matters affecting the condition of Ireland, it will be seen from the meeting of Irish noblemen at Charlemont house, and from numerous public meetings held all over the provinces, that the insult offered to the Roman catholic body, by the Attorney-general, in striking off from the special jury every individual of that persuasion, has sunk deep into the nation's heart. It is quite clear that the present government cannot manage Ireland. The whigs either believe, or affect to believe, they can; and hence Lord John Russell, at an early period of the ensuing session, will bring the subject substantially before the House of Commons. He might as well spare himself the pains he will be at. Ireland, to

say nothing of England, is far too deeply diseased to be recovered by a whig nostrum. Mr O'Brien, we see, hints at the propriety of Irish members abstaining from attendance in their place in parliament. With all deference, we think it would be much more to the purpose if they would take the advice shadowed forth by the Roman catholic Bishop of Galway, and join Sharman Crawford in moving amendments upon motions of supply, and thus beating the government in their own stronghold.

We are glad to observe that the forementioned plan has been heartily received by various boroughs in Lancashire. Stockport, Oldham, Bury, Rochdale, and other places, have been peacefully invaded by a deputation from the council of the Complete Suffrage Union, and have manifested the most intense interest in the success of this novel project. At Oldham Mr Fielden declared himself ready to unite with others to constitute one of the forlorn hope, should the majority of his constituents express their wish that he should do so. Such a course, we believe, if fairly put into practice, would bear down the scruples of many squeamish members; and should Sharman Crawford fail, the cause of his failure will be not more in the corruption of parliament than in the political indifference of the constituent bodies.

The League campaign in Scotland appears, by the reports, to be triumphant. Its various meetings have been characterised by a large attendance of farmers. Anti-league meetings, too, have been tolerably numerous during the past week. Clergymen have been the principal agitators thereof; and perhaps on this account, as well as others, we need hardly be surprised at the thinness of attendance, the wretched lack of arguments, and the paltry amount of subscriptions, which have uniformly distinguished these rural gatherings.

CONSPIRACY.

THE secret is out—the plot is laid bare—the Attorney-general for Ireland has made his statement—and the British public are now acquainted with the heights, and depths, and lengths, and breadths of "as foul and wicked a conspiracy as ever threatened the safety of a great empire." The most important of the evidence to be adduced—that upon which the stress of accusation rests—has been put into court. Following the delicate example of the daily press, we shall refrain from prejudging the issue. Whether Mr O'Connell and his fellow-traversers be or be not guilty of the crime laid to their charge, it is not for us, but for the jury, to decide. But the nature of that crime, the amount of moral delinquency which it involves, and the degree of social disapprobation, condensed into the shape of actual punishment, which ought to be awarded to it, may even now, without the smallest impropriety, be made to pass under review.

Mr O'Connell's guilt may be summed up in a single word—agitation. Nothing has yet appeared—nothing is now likely to appear—to carry it beyond this. In carrying on this agitation for the repeal of an existing, and by no means ancient, act of parliament, he has acted, as all men who hope to carry a great political question uniformly do, in concert with others. A veteran in the work, he brought to it the light of experience, and did effectually what other agitators do but imperfectly. He constructed his organisation in such a manner as thoroughly to combine, to concentrate, and to render available, his strength. He put his well-contrived mechanism into the best possible working order. He kept it completely under control—and by means of it he alarmed the oligarchical faction under whose hoofs Ireland has, from time immemorial, been trampled in the dust.

"Conspiracy," according to the Attorney-general, or, we might more properly say, according to the legal authorities upon which he relied, "is a combination of persons to accomplish an illegal object, or to compass a legal end by unlawful means." He has proved against O'Connell, and the other traversers, the simple fact of combination—as to the rest, it may be useful to keep our eyes open, and our judgments unclouded, lest the sophistry, as well of the bench as of the bar, should mislead us to the conclusion that combination is conspiracy. Let us examine this.

It is not pretended—at least, although obliquely insinuated, it is not manfully avowed, that Mr O'Connell's object is an illegal one. The repeal of an act of parliament, even after the ministers of the Crown have solemnly and emphatically declared their determination to maintain it, is not placed, by law or by constitutional custom, without the range of legitimate agitation. None but a usurping aristocracy would deem such a subject *tabooed*. If, indeed, the scope of the Liberator's labours has been such as to taint those labours with criminality—if, by striving to effect the abrogation of an act passed by the legislature of 1843, he has rendered himself amenable to justice—we ask, what ground of defence exists upon which for the Anti-corn-law League to stand? and, *a fortiori*, what will protect the Anti-state-church Conference from the outpourings of ministerial vengeance? To seek the displacement of a statute not yet fifty

years old, is surely as nothing in point of criminality, compared with seeking the severance of a union which has existed for many centuries, and which boasts of an antiquity more remote than any of the written laws of the empire. But Mr O'Connell must be acquitted, by every subject of the empire who does not love the clank of his own chains, of attempting to secure an illegal end. The mark at which he aimed does not constitute him a conspirator, or, if it does, cannot make him a criminal.

What now are the means, so far as they have been set forth by the Attorney-general's speech, and by the evidence hitherto put in, by which the Irish agitator sought to effect his purpose? He organised an association, which the corn-law repealers have also done—which the complete suffragists have done—and which the state-church abolitionists will probably go on to do. He eschewed all secret pass words—all oaths—all concealed methods of combination. He gave tickets of membership. He collected subscriptions. He called together public meetings—and, lest they should prove disorderly, and thus endanger the public peace, he appointed a number of men upon whom he devolved the responsibility of preserving tranquillity. He addressed those meetings generally in a strain of eloquence peculiarly his own—often, we admit, in a tone of bitterness to wards the people of this country, which as a people they did not deserve, and which could find a just application only when directed against the oppressors of England as well as of Ireland—usually, with many and apparently sincere protestations of loyalty—always, with earnest admonitions to abstain from crime and to maintain inviolate the public peace. Whatever he did, and whatever he said, he did and said openly, in the broad light of day. He went out of his way to accommodate the reporters of the public press, and he gave equal protection and assistance to avowed reporters for the government. Thus far, then, his means differed from those employed by all denouncers of the grievances of their country, only in his more scrupulous anxiety to keep his followers within the precincts of law and order. But he went beyond this. He recommended the people to settle their mutual differences by arbitration, a crime encouraged by act of parliament—and that they might do so with satisfaction to themselves he appointed arbitrators who volunteered to judge between man and man, without putting the parties to legal expenses. Such is the real amount of O'Connell's guilt.

And now, we would put it to any candid Englishman, to any one in whose bosom a spark of patriotism yet remains unextinguished, to say by what standard this man can be convicted of conspiracy—or how it is possible to condemn him, without involving him who once gloried in the name of Henry Brougham—and Mr Cobden—and John Bright—and Joseph Sturge—and even Sharman Crawford, in the same condemnation. What sound maxim of political morals has he violated? What charter of British rights can his prosecutors appeal to as sustaining them in their ill-advised conflict with an oppressed nation? We boldly answer, 'None.' Not if Mr O'Connell is adjudged to have been guilty of conspiracy, his verdict will be given, not by the common sense of society, not by equity, not even by law, but by the interpretations put upon law by class-appointed judges. Because men occupying a seat upon the bench have decided in by-gone times that such and such acts constitute conspiracy—no matter how much the precedent may have set decency at defiance—the bench will so decide again. The dictum of Justice Holroyd will test O'Connell's guilt. It will be found in Dublin, as it has again and again been found in England, that when the state is the prosecutor, conspiracy means nothing more nor less than agitation—and that any combination, however peaceful, which is strong enough to make the ruling faction tremble, and to shake the nerves of hoary-headed monopoly—that any such combination, serving as it must to bring the law into contempt, may be proved by precedents to be illegal. In these days of modern enlightenment, judicial dicta are made to over-ride Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights itself—so entirely are we at the mercy of the aristocracy.

WHAT WILL PARLIAMENT DO?

As the session for 1844 approaches, this question may be regarded as not unnatural. Parliament is supposed to be the great council of the nation, and never did the affairs of the British empire require, for their disentanglement, loftier wisdom, sounder principle, or sterner patriotism. Now, if ever, there is room for the development of every quality of statesmanship—the cool head, the quick eye, the steady nerve, the unshrinking heart; and yet nobody is fond enough to dream of relief from the House of Commons. Professedly representing the people, it cares little or nothing for the people's condition. For a long time past, the Queen's minister has been the lord of that assembly, and, by catering to its tastes, and gratifying its class propensities, has succeeded in swaying its counsels to his own will.

Ireland is in a state of disorganisation. The

men in whom she reposes confidence are now placed on their defence at the bar of justice. Her towns are occupied by troops; her villages swarm with a discontented and starving peasantry. But who expects that Ireland will obtain from parliament a calm consideration of her manifold wrongs? England, too, though less boisterous in the expression of feeling, is thoroughly dissatisfied. Her middle classes, her merchants, and her tradesmen—worn to the bone with the heavy pressure of taxation, and crippled in all their affairs by the restrictions of monopoly—demand justice in the shape of a repeal of the corn laws. The working men, degraded by political outlawry, ask restoration to the rights of citizenship. Religionists of every denomination, save that of the established church, cry out against the iniquity practised upon themselves, and the wrong done to Christianity, by the insolence, rapacity, and tyranny of a state-endowed priesthood. Of what avail are their complaints? The House of Commons will turn a deaf ear to all. Ireland will not get the deliverance she seeks—the free traders will not obtain a relaxation of the commercial code—the people will not secure for themselves an unrestricted franchise—dissenters will make no impression upon the state church—during the ensuing parliamentary session. None of them expect it. Few of them will attempt it. The task undertaken according to the routine mode is known, beforehand, to be worse than hopeless.

Under such circumstances, we should like to be informed what are the insuperable obstacles in the way, which should prevent the sincere and hearty adherents of each cause from fighting a successful battle for all upon Mr Sharman Crawford's plan? Why should not each bring forward the special subject to which he attaches himself, as an amendment upon a motion for supply? Why should not all, by previous friendly arrangement, so concert measures as to leave the minister no room for pushing forward what he is chiefly interested in—the business of voting money? It is quite clear that five and twenty determined members could, by a vigorous use of such means—means perfectly in accordance with the spirit of the constitution—bring our aristocratic rulers to a pause, and ultimately command their own terms. Are the parliamentary leaders of each movement really in earnest? Are they intent upon gaining that, as speedily as possible, for which they are severally agitating the country? If so, an instrument is within their reach, by which to effect their purpose. Will they, in defiance of conventional maxims, have the courage to wield it? This is what we long to see; and what, ere many days, we are destined to see. May the answer to these queries be given in the affirmative!

THE COURT.—Her Majesty (who will open the coming session of parliament in person on the 1st of February), will take her departure from Windsor castle, for Buckingham palace, on Tuesday or Wednesday the 30th or 31st instant. It is fully expected that the stay of the Sovereign in town will not extend beyond a week or ten days; when the court will return to Windsor, and remain at the castle till a somewhat advanced period of the spring, most probably until the middle of April; on account, it is said, of the healthiness of the place for the youthful family.—*Times*.

Friday night's *Gazette* makes known the fact, that the still absent Lieutenant Munro has been superseded by the authorities at the Horse Guards.

THE ADDRESS.—The Tory journals announce that the address to her Majesty in answer to the speech from the throne, on the opening of parliament, will be moved in the House of Commons by Viscount Clive, eldest son of the Earl of Powis, member for North Salop; and seconded by Edward Cardwell, Esq., the member for the borough of Clitheroe.

LORD WHARNCLIFFE.—We learn from good authority that her Majesty is about to create Lord Wharnccliffe an earl.—*Leeds Mercury*.

RETIREMENT OF SIR HENRY POTTINGER.—We learn, on good authority, that Mr Davis, who formerly acted for a short time as successor to the late Lord Napier, in China, has been selected by the government to relieve Sir Henry Pottinger as the Queen's representative and governor of the new British colony, Hong Kong. Mr Davis will depart very shortly on his highly important mission by the overland route.—*Standard*.

STATE AND PROSPECTS OF THE COTTON MARKET.—The present aspect of the cotton market, both at Liverpool and at the principal ports of the United States, is calculated to inspire serious apprehensions for the continuance of that improvement in the cotton manufacture which has recently been witnessed with so much satisfaction. If we may judge from the tenor of the accounts received from the United States, by the *Hibernia*, on Saturday last, and from the effect which those accounts have produced at Liverpool, there is great cause to fear a recurrence of that spirit of wild and groundless speculation in the raw material which has, at different times and under different pretences, caused so much trouble and annoyance to the spinners and manufacturers of this district, and inflicted such terrible losses upon those who have suffered themselves to be misled by it.—*Manchester Guardian*.

EXTENSIVE EXCISE PROSECUTIONS.—According to the opinions of persons connected with the excise department, the system of fraud and adulteration of exciseable articles, and, of course, those in a great measure of daily consumption, never existed to so great an extent as at the present time, and the cases of detection by the officers in all parts of the country have multiplied to an unprecedented degree. With cocoa a fine brown earth is mixed, and a little mutton fat added for the sake of "richness." During the past week, prosecutions, under the authority of her Majesty's commissioners, took place in the following places, and in every case a conviction, with the penalties annexed, was obtained:—For spurious pepper: in Worcester, six informations, penalties £250; in Sunderland, twelve informations, penalties £350; in Durham, two informations, penalties £100; in Bristol, three informations, penalties £100. The adulterations in the above cases were red and white mustard husks, rice, chilies, saw-dust, earthy matter, sago, linseed, rapeseed, and wheat bran. In Manchester, Thomas Rainell was fined £200 for adulterating his stock of tobacco with turmeric and yellow ochre. A great number of other prosecutions for tobacco will follow, several lots of which are adulterated with tar and sand to the extent of fourteen per cent.

THE BANK CHARTER.—The present ministry have already intimated to the governor and deputy-governor, at a recent interview, that it is the intention of government to support the claim for it. The *quid pro quo*, if our information be correct, will be the assistance of the Bank in any conversion plan, by a large advance to meet the demands of those who may dissent from a reduction of the interest on their stock.—*Globe*.

Gold is 0.54 per cent. dearer in London than in Paris, and 0.12 per cent. dearer in London than in Hamburg.

BRITISH CAPITAL AND SLAVERY.—The British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society have published the following address on the employment of British capital in maintaining slaves for the working of mines:—

"To British Shareholders in Foreign Mining Companies."

"It is, of course, known to you, that the labour of slaves is extensively employed in the mines which are worked by British capital in Cuba and Brazil, and that several British companies have become actual purchasers and proprietors of slaves.

"As the directors of such companies act on behalf of the shareholders, all that is done by them attaches to the shareholders also. They are the persons who, both morally and legally, buy and sell, hold and employ, slaves. It is fit that every shareholder in such a company should entertain this consideration with the utmost gravity, and ask himself the question whether he approves of such a course of action, and whether he really means to be implicated in it. What is done by the directors is, unless he expresses his dissent from it, done by himself. He chooses them, and he can instruct, and even control them. What he would not do with his own hands, he ought not to effect through theirs.

"It is known that some persons holding shares in foreign mining companies have felt their position as slave-holders very severely. With much truth it has been said in their behalf, that they are involuntary slave-holders, and that they acquired the property which has made them such without being aware of its consequences. To this, however, it must be added that they are not thus freed from the obligation of a suitable course of action. In their present circumstances, they are competent to adopt proceedings directly adapted to remove, both from themselves and others, the burden under which they lie. As shareholders of a public company, each of them has a voice in its concerns, and, at the yearly or half-yearly meetings of the Company, an opportunity of making his voice heard. Ought not this opportunity to be improved? Should not every shareholder who deplores, and wishes to terminate, his career of slave-holding, make a point of being present at these meetings, and expressing his sentiments? Some sympathy such a person would be almost sure to meet with; and who can tell how much? If not at once, yet in time it might be enough to fix the attention of the directors, and to induce a change on the part of the company. Those who feel together on this subject might communicate with each other, and endeavour to act in concert. At all events, the attention of the shareholders at large, and that of the public, would be kept alive to the facts of the case, and individual shareholders would, by protesting against the course adopted by the company, do what the circumstances permit to free themselves from blame. To lament it privately, or even to refuse the profit which might accrue from such an investment, can scarcely be deemed enough to afford satisfaction to an honourable mind.

"It is no doubt true, that a shareholder, in coming forward in the manner which has been described, might encounter considerable difficulty, and might expose himself to a species of observation and remark which every one would naturally avoid. But this cannot be thought a sufficient reason for shrinking from a duty so imperative and so important. The claims of justice, benevolence, and humanity concur to enforce it; and the faithful discharge of it, amidst whatever difficulties, will surely be connected with far greater tranquillity of mind, than a tame and cowardly acquiescence in a state of things, which makes you individually an accomplice in a course of injustice and wrong which your own heart condemns, and which the whole civilised world is concurring to denounce and to destroy.

"The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society feel it their duty to submit to the shareholders these remarks, and they trust a kind and serious attention will be given to them.

"(Signed by direction of the Committee),

"JOHN SCOBLE, Secretary.

"London, Jan. 15th, 1844."

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—At the late audit of his Grace the Duke of Leeds, six per cent. was kindly returned to the tenants on his Kiveto estate, besides putting off the rent day a month. Well would it be if more would follow the same example.

PROVINCIAL.

WITCHCRAFT IN THE ISLE OF MAN.—A farmer, named John Irvine, residing at Marown, lost several of his beasts, in consequence of being over-fed, and by improper treatment. Instead of attributing the loss of his cattle to the proper cause, the poor, ignorant man, as do many of the Manx people in similar circumstances, attributed his misfortunes to the influence of witchcraft, and, the more easily to find out the witch, he obtained what is called a "trespass warrant" from the Deemster. This warrant empowers the party to call a jury, and summon all the people in the neighbourhood. These are put upon their oaths, and questioned whether they ever have trespassed upon certain land. All these formalities having been gone through, the jury consisting of four, including two local preachers, assembled, and a great number of witnesses were examined, the principal question being, "Did you witch Irvine's cattle?" The examination was adjourned from day to day, until at last Irvine's sister-in-law, who acts as a midwife, stated that, having been sent for on one occasion in great haste to a neighbour's house, she did cross Irvine's field which adjoined her own, and, on another occasion, she entered it for the purpose of escaping from her husband, who was tipsy. The jury were, of course, then charged to bring in damages against the poor woman, and they awarded a sum which, with costs, would amount to £5. A lawyer having been brought from Douglas to write down the evidence, the enlightened jury and others of the party were busy in a public-house adjoining, settling the matter, when a number of boys, who, with many others, were attracted to the spot in consequence of hearing of these absurd proceedings, caught a wild rabbit, and determined to have some fun at the expense of the jury. They managed, unseen, to let the animal loose in the room where the sages were sitting, and, on this formidable apparition making its appearance, their amazement and terror knew no bounds. One of the party, more courageous than the rest, seized poor pussy, and unceremoniously terminated its existence, whilst those assembled shouted, in the wildness of their joy and fear, "The witch is caught, the witch is caught." Whether the poor woman has still to pay her £5 or not, has not transpired; but we can assure our readers this is a pretty correct picture of the intelligence which exists amongst the lower and middling class of native farmers in the Isle of Man.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

A BRUTAL PARENT.—On Tuesday last, a verdict of "Wilful murder" was returned against Richard Andrews, by a coroner's jury, at the King's Arms, Bishopsgate street, Birmingham, for having set fire to some shavings upon which his daughter, Eliza Andrews, aged four years, slept, from the effects of which the said child died shortly afterwards, in great agony, in the Queen's Hospital.

EDUCATION AT CONWAY.—We learn from the *Conway Herald*, that the dissenters of Conway have made a move on behalf of popular education. On Thursday last, the 11th inst., a public meeting was held at the Calvinistic methodists' chapel, at which it was resolved that day schools should be adopted on the plan of the British and Foreign School Society. The independents, baptists, and Calvinistic methodists of the town and neighbourhood attended the meeting, and resolved to unite for carrying out its object. A committee, consisting of persons out of each of these denominations, was appointed. Two buildings are proposed to be erected, one in the town, and the other in a populous district in the country. The landed proprietors will be duly applied to, for sites suitable to the purpose.

CONGREGATIONAL EDUCATION.—Two or three preliminary meetings have been held within the last three weeks to determine upon the best course to be taken in this district in support of the resolutions adopted at the educational conference in London; and it has been resolved to convene a meeting of representatives of the various churches in this district, to be held in Bradford on the 29th instant, and that will, probably, be followed by a public meeting.—*Bradford Observer*.

TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF KING WILLIAM'S COLLEGE.—It is our painful duty, on the present occasion, to record the total destruction, by fire, of this beautiful, modern, and extensive edifice, on the morning of Sunday, the 14th instant. The origin of the fire is as yet unknown; but it is ascertained to have broken out in the western wing, either in the class rooms of the English department, or in the boys' dining room, immediately below. Shortly after two o'clock the first alarm was given; but, for many hours after this, there was no fire engine, ladder, or supply of water, that could be used with any effect; and the flames, having thus unchecked progress, rapidly spread through the corridors, and the entire of the vast building, including the class rooms, the dwelling house of the Rev. Mr Dixon, the principal, the beautiful chapel, and the great tower, which, with the exception of the apartments of the Rev. Mr Cumming, the vice-principal, situated in the eastern wing, were totally destroyed. The first alarm was given by two boys who were sick of the measles, separated from the other boys, and sleeping immediately over the English class rooms, who, having felt a strong smell of fire, gave the alarm to the principal and vice-principal, who, with their families, servants, and about fifty boys, boarding at the college, were aroused from their slumbers, although we understand some of the servants and children of the Rev. Mr Dixon escaped with some difficulty. The edifice cost 6,000*l.*, and is insured for 4,000*l.*—*Mona's Herald*.

FREE TRADE DEMONSTRATION AT MANCHESTER.—On Thursday evening the spacious Free Trade hall was again filled. The chair was taken by George Wilson, Esq., who explained that they had assem-

bled for the purpose of tracing the progress of the great movement against the corn law, and pointed triumphantly to the amount of funds raised, as showing the position occupied by the League in the estimation of the country [loud cheers]. "Within the last five weeks we have had meetings held at twenty-five places. Here, then, we find these meetings—many of which were presided over by landowners, whose property, it is said, would be materially injured by the repeal of the corn laws, and at some of these meetings the largest subscriptions have been raised [applause]. We have had, since last we assembled here, twenty-five meetings, at which the enormous sum of £22,088 have been collected towards the great League fund [great cheering]. Mr Milner Gibson, Mr Brotherton, Mr Mark Philips, and other gentlemen, addressed the meeting amidst the most animating applause.

ANTI-LEAGUE MOVEMENT.—The movement among the agriculturists, in opposition to the Anti-corn-law League, increases in extent if not in influence. At a public meeting at Lewes last week, the almost defunct "East Sussex Association for the Protection of Agriculture," was again called into life, under the auspices of George Darby, Esq., M.P., Sir H. Shiffner, Bart, Mr Ellman, Mr Molyneux, &c. About 21 persons were present. Mr Darby, in the course of his speech, said, that he was never more convinced of any matter than he was of the fact, that there was not the slightest intention to make any alteration in the corn laws. The usual resolutions were passed, and it was resolved to hold a public meeting at Steyning, on the 29th instant. A numerous meeting, consisting of about 200 persons, was held at Banbury, on Thursday, of the landowners and tenant-farmers residing in that part of Oxfordshire. Colonel North took the chair, and, as usual, the most prominent supporters were the clergymen of the neighbourhood. Viscount Villiers, Sir R. Peel's son-in-law, who was said to have come recently from Tamworth, made a short speech, in which he said, "These meetings had asserted a great fact; they had contradicted Mr Cobden's assertion that he had converted the farmers to his way of thinking." No mention was made of any subscription. The members of the Durham Farmers' Club have now a proposition before them to form themselves into a society to counteract the influence and efforts of the Anti-corn-law League; but a final decision has been deferred until the next meeting. The resolution on the subject was moved by Mr John Tyson, vicar of Kirk Merrington. Mr Smith, of Brancepeth, said he had seen a plan which recommended that an equitable adjustment relatively with the other interests of the country should simultaneously accompany the abolition of the corn laws. A reduction of the interest of the national debt to two per cent. was recommended and justified on the ground that, when the debt was incurred, money was not worth more, because the money was borrowed upon a depreciated currency. Some of the owners and occupiers of land in the Isle of Ely, have also pronounced in favour of an "Agricultural Protection Association." The *Leicester Mercury* informs us that "a pro-corn-law meeting was recently held at Atherstone, to receive subscriptions towards opposing the 'League.'" At the close of the meeting the munificent sum of five shillings was subscribed! It is all over with the League!

THE GADDESBY MURDER AGAIN.—It will be recollected that a man named Messenger was tried at the last Leicester assizes, for the murder of Jem Garner, at Gaddeby, near Leicester, but the bill was thrown out by the jury for want of sufficient evidence. Last week, he was again apprehended under the following circumstances. On Thursday last, Timson, who was lately in the employ of Messenger, was charged at Loughborough with stealing a fork and other tools from his late master; and in the course of his defence said, that some time after Garner was missed, Messenger had told him that he was dead; and "offered to give him a sovereign, or indeed anything, if he would bury the body." Mrs Hodges, a shoe dealer, of Leicester, also appeared before the Leicester magistrates last week, and gave evidence that one morning, a short time before the body was discovered, she was near Messenger's cottage;—

While standing in a field on the hill she heard a whistle, then a noise, as of some blow being struck by a heavy instrument, and immediately after two loud groans. This, of course, considerably increased her alarm, which was not at all allayed by seeing a man coming in a direction from the spot where the body was subsequently found, get over a fleak in the hedge, at a distance of not more than forty yards. She saw he had something red on his hands, and distinctly heard him say, "D—n it, I've done it." She hid herself in the hedge till he had gone to some distance, and then got over the very fleak which she saw him cross; and she then discovered that it had several marks of blood upon it. On crossing the fleak she came into a field where there were several trees, and there she saw an old woman and child picking wool, and she also saw the same man going up the hedge side.

Since that time Messenger had been to her stall, and offered her some consideration to hold her tongue. Messenger has been remanded for further examination.

EXECUTION OF ROBERTS.—John Roberts suffered the extreme penalty of the law for the murder of Lord Derby's gamekeeper, at Liverpool, on Saturday. Before he was turned off, he addressed the large crowd:—"Good people all, I have made my peace with the Almighty, and I hope that some of you will tell my poor old father that I die happy. Good people, I have prayed very hard for my sins to be forgiven night and day, and my poor companion, Jim Hunt, has been praying for me. I hope, good people, you will all turn from your sins and wickedness. I owe no man any animosity, and I expect that no man owes me any. (Cries of "No, no," from

the crowd.) Good people, take this as a warning from me, and never let yourselves be entangled with the devil and bad company. May God bless you all! May the Lord have mercy on your souls, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who suffered on the cross for our sins, and who shed his blood for us. Amen. Farewell! farewell!" the bolt was then withdrawn and the prisoner fell, the crowd setting up a hideous yell, the expression apparently of their feelings of horror at the shock, rather than of bad feeling towards the dying man. He struggled violently for a few seconds, and then ceased to move.

CLOSING SHOPS.—We understand that meetings of the Drapers' Assistants have lately been held, for the purpose of making arrangements with their employers, as to the closing of shops at an earlier hour during the winter season, in conformity with the example set them in other large towns; and are glad to find that, with but one exception, the masters have expressed their cordial acquiescence; so that (on and after Monday) the shops will be closed at the same hour as at Liverpool, Sheffield, Huddersfield, and many other places.—*Leeds Mercury*.

ANOTHER INCENDIARY FIRE AT THE RED BARN FARM.—On Saturday night the inhabitants of Polstead were again alarmed by the cry of "Fire." It was soon ascertained that a stack of haulm, standing on the Red Barn farm, was in flames, and though every effort was made to save it, it was speedily consumed. Not a doubt remains but that this fire was also the work of some iniquitous incendiary. The name of the "Red Barn" has already become sufficiently notorious by being connected with one of the foulest murders on record; but we are deeply sorry to find that there are still persons living, who, in the form of humanity, but with the characteristics of fiends, seem bent on adding yet greater darkness to its blackened history, by their fearful repetition of the crime of incendiarism. On Thursday night an attempt was made to destroy the premises and farming stock at Ardleigh hall, Suffolk, but was, fortunately, unsuccessful.—*Ipswich Express*.

STATE OF SOUTH WALES.—Such is the peaceable state of Carmarthenshire at present, that the magistrates have deemed it advisable to dispense with the aid of the London police, and they are to be removed to the metropolis as speedily as possible. Thirty-three left Carmarthen for London on Tuesday. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed by the grand jury at the Carmarthenshire winter assizes to Inspector Tierney and his men, for their activity and usefulness.—*Welshman*.

IRELAND.

THE STATE PROSECUTIONS.

On the sitting of the court on Tuesday morning, the persons summoned on the jury all answered to their names, those four not being called who were excused on the previous day. Mr O'Connell appeared, not at the bar, but seated among the Queen's counsel, and attired in his wig and gown. Two of the traversers did not appear—Messrs Barrett and Duffy. Their attorneys proposed to undertake that they would admit, when they arrived, the irregularity of what was done in their absence, but the Attorney-general insisted that such undertaking could not be received without his consent, and he could not consent in this case, because the same difficulty might arise again, and at the very time when the witness to identify them should be called for the purpose. Some time was allowed to elapse, during which Mr Duffy came in, and at the end of a further interval Mr Barrett, being called on his recognisance, appeared, amidst loud laughter, just as it was about to be estreated.

The jurors were then sworn; Captain Roper, in spite of his declaration that he was seventy-two years of age, being included in their number. Two others were excused, after great resistance on the part of the traversers.

At length twelve gentlemen were sworn—these are their names:—James Hamilton, foreman; Edward Roper, Edward Clarke, Francis Faulkner, John Croker, Henry Flynn, Henry Thompson, Anston Floyd, John Rigby, Robert Hanna, William Longfield, William Ord.

Mr NAPIER then opened the pleadings, setting forth the nature of the case as stated in the opening of the Attorney-general. There were eleven counts in the indictment, to which the traversers pleaded not guilty.

At half-past eleven the ATTORNEY-GENERAL rose to address the jury. After claiming their attention in a case of such momentous concern, and repeating the substance of the charges in the indictment, he proceeded to state his conception of the law as it applied to them, before he should open the evidence by which he proposed to sustain them. He then stated, with great minuteness and particularity, the nature of the law, according as he understood it, and referred to many cases in support of his view of it. A confederacy becomes an unlawful and criminal conspiracy when two or more persons combine to do an unlawful act, or to effect a lawful act by unlawful means. It is not necessary that the purpose should be actually effected. Merely confederating, said Chief Justice Bushe, on the trial of the bottle rioters at the Dublin theatre in 1823, constitutes the crime, though the object be not effected. If, again, it appears that the actors have one object, and use similar means, that is a conspiracy; and, though nothing be seen but one performing one part, and another another part, acts, which by themselves might seem independent acts, yet, if tending to the same end, the jury is warranted in drawing as an inference from that tendency that it is the result of a previous criminal concert. Again, if the parties have a common design, the acts of any one of them

will be evidence against the rest, though their concert with him in this particular act be not apparent, and this as well with respect to his acts before some of them have joined the conspiracy as afterwards; and he referred to the cases of the Cato street conspirators as authority for his statement, that the party who joins in the design adopts and becomes responsible, as well for the acts done before he joined as afterwards. Again, if a plan be found in existence, which the jury may believe could only have existed in consequence of a conspiracy, that will justify them in finding that there was a previous conspiracy. The Attorney-general then referred to an indictment found against John Frost and others, for conspiracy, but on which he was not tried, having been previously convicted of treason; but Vincent and Edwards were, and found guilty. The charge was, that "John Frost and others did conspire, &c., to excite discontent and disaffection in the minds of the liege subjects of her Majesty, and to excite the liege subjects of her Majesty to hatred and contempt of the government and constitution of this realm, and to unlawful and seditious opposition to such government." The overt acts charged were—attendance at four meetings at Pontypool, where violent speeches were delivered to large bodies of persons. After referring to other cases, he came to a case arising out of the Manchester riots of 1819, for which Mr Hunt was tried and punished. It was an action brought by one of the dispersed meetings against the captain who commanded the yeomanry cavalry for an assault and wounding. On the trial before Mr Justice Holroyd, he told the jury, in the words of Mr Justice Bayley, on the trial of Mr Hunt, "that all persons assembled to sow sedition, and bring into contempt the constitution, are in an unlawful assembly; all persons assembled in furtherance of this object are unlawfully assembled too." Further, Judge Bayley said—"What are the objects of the leader—the person who means to occupy the chair—the persons intended to take distinguished parts in the meeting? What are the objects of those who bear the flags or banners? These are to be considered with reference to the inscriptions. What are the objects of those who have been drilled? If the object of the drilling is to secure the attention of the persons drilled to disaffected speeches, and give confidence by an appearance of strength to those willing to join them, that would be illegal; or if they were to say, we will have what we have not—a meeting for that purpose, however it may be masked, if it is really for a purpose of that kind, would be illegal." In consequence of this charge, in which Mr Justice Holroyd adopted and reiterated the language of Mr Justice Bayley on the trial of Mr Hunt, the captain of the yeomanry cavalry was acquitted. But the plaintiff was not satisfied; he moved for a new trial, on the ground that the judge had misdirected the jury; and in giving judgment, refusing the motion, Lord Tenterden said, "that what was said by persons going, or preparing to go, to such a meeting was evidence, and most important evidence, against those assembled. Many persons would go from different motives—some from mere curiosity; others who would think there were public grievances which such a meeting might prevent; others might go meditating mischief immediately; others again, who meditated mischief at some future time, when those drilled, who up to this period had been without arms, might have arrived at a further stage in military discipline." Now I, said the Attorney-general, may be told that the meetings which were held dispersed peaceably and instantaneously on being desired to do so. But to me this is the most formidable and aggravating feature of these meetings. The persons assembled were told that "the hour of England's infirmity was the hour of Ireland's opportunity." "Will you come again when I shall call you?" "Wait; be quiet for the present; our organisation must be complete before the signal is given." Lord Tenterden further said—"When we consider that these country people came marching in this way through the town of Manchester, bearing flags and banners inscribed with mottoes, not merely containing high-sounding words, but inscriptions of 'No corn laws—Better live like men than die like slaves,' and other expressions of defiance, it is manifest that there was an avowed intention to insult those who were intrusted with the administration of justice, and, if possible, by a show of numbers to overawe and prevent them from interfering with the object their leader might be supposed to have had." Allowing that Mr O'Connell inculcated peace and order, the Attorney-general maintained that he did it with the manifest intention of perfecting the organisation of the people till they should be ripe for a general outbreak, and then, either by intimidation or by actual violence, compelling government to grant a repeal of the union, which was equivalent to a dismemberment of the empire. The crown lawyer next proceeded to the doings of the association, commencing with the meeting of the 26th January last, and giving the history of the "monster meetings," from that at Trim on the 16th of March to the intended meeting at Clontarf. He made many and long quotations from the speeches of O'Connell and the other defendants, and from the *Nation* and *Pilot* newspapers, and alleged that they all proved a determination to obtain repeal, and an intention to do it by so exciting, inflaming, and organising the country, that rebellion would be inevitable unless repeal was granted.

At five o'clock the Attorney-general stopped, and proposed an adjournment.

The only piece of anything like spirit shown through this long and dull address was when laughter followed an allusion to the old Irish chiefs invoked by the repealers, and Mr Smith suddenly stopped and said, "I cannot understand what is the

meaning of that laughter, and I am sorry to see such levity evinced when we are engaged on such an important and new subject as the present; and I will venture to say, before I close I will lay such a case of conspiracy before the public as will excite sentiments within their bosoms exceedingly different."

A discussion then arose as to what was to be done with the jury. It was finally agreed to, on all sides, that they should retire to their homes, after receiving a most solemn caution not to hold communication with any person whatsoever on the subject of the pending trial—a concession of which they availed themselves apparently with very great satisfaction. The court adjourned at five o'clock to next morning at ten.

On Wednesday morning the court assembled, without hindrance or default, at ten o'clock; and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL resumed his chronological account of the repeal agitation. He took up the narrative at the meeting of Baltinglass, on the 6th August, where Mr O'Connell called on every man determined to meet him there again when he should require him to hold up a hand, boasting of the irresistible, because peaceable, multitude he should soon have. At the Baltinglass dinner Mr O'Connell remarked that the bloodless revolution that hurled Espartero from power was effected by the army and the nation; and he contrasted the position of sergeants in the Spanish army, to whom promotion was open, with that of sergeants in the British service. Six days after appeared a long paper in the *Nation*, headed "March of Nationality," boasting of the growing strength of the repealers in money, numbers, and organisation, and mentioning the future appointment of "arbitrators." At the Tara meeting, on the 16th August, the numbers were variously estimated at 100,000 to 1,000,000. The spot was selected as the scene of the defeat of those engaged in the rebellion of 1798. Actually hundreds—he might say thousands—of persons were seen upon their knees, plucking a wild plant growing over the graves of those who fell in the rebellion, and who were buried there (a wild geranium with a red leaf), under an impression which these poor people had that the colour of the leaf arose from the slaughter of those who fell there.

At this meeting Mr O'Connell quizzed the Duke of Wellington's military preparations; complimented the army—"the bravest army in the world;" recited the legend of the Limerick women; propounded his plan by which the Queen was at once to summon an Irish parliament; and exhorted the people to keep out of the Petit Sessions Courts and attend the "Arbitrators' courts." This project, said Mr Smith, was decidedly illegal; and perhaps the more so because it was adopted in consequence of the exercise of the Crown's prerogative in dismissing magistrates who had attended repeal meetings. Mr Smith subsequently recurred to this subject more than once; tracing the formation of the arbitration courts according to the plan introduced by Dr Gray at the Repeal Association; but he mentioned no new facts. At the Tara dinner, Dr Gray boasted that the Irish press was a political press—"its politics were those of Ireland." Mr O'Connell alluded to "the might that slumbers in a peasant's right arm," multiplied by 600,000 or 750,000 (taken as the numbers at the meeting); he said, "While I live, that outbreak will not take place; but sooner or later"—"the day will come when they will rue their want of policy, and will weep, perhaps in tears of blood, for their want of consideration;" and he boasted that "no general ever had an army more submissive to his commands than the people of Ireland are to the wishes of a single individual." On the 22nd of August, Mr O'Connell produced, at a meeting of the Repeal Association, his plan "for the renewed action of the Irish parliament;" and on the 26th, the *Nation* contained a paper in which it was declared that "resistance to the union has become a duty." On the 4th of September, divers monies were received from several places in the United States; and then Mr O'Connell attacked the recent Queen's speech on proroguing parliament, to which he afterwards produced a counter-manifesto. In his remarks introducing this document, he spurned the charges in the speech against the repealers, as being "false as hell;" treating the speech, however, as emanating from the ministers only. On the same day, Mr O'Connell suggested a plan, reserved for an emergency, by which the people of Ireland might leave the harvest uncut and abstain from the use of excisable commodities; a plan, said Mr Smith, projected in 1797, to embarrass the government. Mr O'Connell then propounded his scheme for the assembling of a Preservative Society—three hundred gentlemen, from places to be represented in the Irish parliament; but shielded from the character of delegates by each paying £100, and meeting "accidentally" to dine with Mr O'Connell; as if it were possible, by any such contrivance, to conceal the true character of the assemblage! Mr Smith quoted from the *Pilot* a letter by "Richard Power, P.P." on "the duty of a soldier," declaring that the soldier ought to fight against the enemies of his country, but that he was not bound to obey if ordered to go beyond that rule, or "enter upon a war of plunder or oppression against an offending people;" with other papers speaking in terms of compassion, if not approval, of Jubee, a soldier who shot Adjutant Robertson Mackay, and of M'Manus, who dropped dead at drill. He mentioned the Loughrea meeting, where Mr O'Connell dilated on his physical power. The Clifden meeting, where Dr Gray boasted of the "troops of peasant cavalry," and Mr O'Connell asked the people if they did not "hate Saxon tyranny as much as the natives of other parts of Ireland?" Lismore, where he said, "If you were wanted by me to-morrow, would you come?" The

Rath of Mullaghmast, where a handbill was handed about, giving "a full and true account of the dreadful slaughter and murder at Mullaghmast, on the bodies of 400 Roman Catholics;" which document concluded by saying that "England was doing in India what was formerly perpetrated in that country, and she should also deserve to be subdued, if Irishmen were cowardly enough to give her the opportunity." Here a crown, corresponding with an Irish gold crown preserved in the College Museum, was placed on Mr O'Connell's head; and the resolutions called the "Leinster Declaration of Repeal," were passed, pledging those present "individually and collectively," to follow his guidance under any and every circumstance that may arise; and, come weal or woe, never to desert the constitutional standard of repeal which he has raised." Mr O'Connell had gone there in his scarlet robes for the purpose of producing an effect, and there did he declare his solemn conviction, as a constitutional lawyer, that the union was totally void, and that no one part of the empire had the power to oppress another. At that meeting a resolution had been come to, to petition parliament for a repeal of the union; but nothing more had been heard of the petition, and, doubtless, it was only mentioned to give a colour to the proceedings. At the subsequent dinner, Mr John O'Connell, in toasting the Queen, said—"Her ministers may fix her throne amidst bloody fields, and blazing cities, and slaughtered corpses. Let them take care that the ruddiest stream flowing might not be their own blood, and the brightest and fiercest flame might not be from the stronghold from which they now insult the Irish people." Mr Barrett and Dr Gray were also speakers at the dinner. At a meeting of the Repeal Association, on the 3rd of October, a letter was read from the chairman of the town commissioners of Loughrea (a municipal body), in which the writer said that it had been determined to expel from the commissioners two or three "recusants"—persons who refused to join the Repeal Association! Mr Steele here delivered the speech, Mr Bond Hughes's report of which had been the subject of controversy; Mr Smith challenged the traversers to produce their own reporters in evidence. Mr Smith had now come down to the Clontarf meeting—the order for the "Repeal cavalry," advertised in the *Nation*—the suppression of the meeting by proclamation; and the meeting held instead at Calvert's theatre, on the 9th of October. Here most of the traversers were present, and a resolution was passed, "That no power on earth, but the Queen, Lords, and Commons, of Ireland, had power or authority to make our laws;" a resolution similar to one proposed in 1782, when, however, Ireland had a separate parliament. In conclusion, Mr Smith maintained that his statement made out the charge which he had quoted from the indictment. He admitted that, although an ultimate outbreak was at times alluded to, the meetings were not intended to end in outrage; but he contended, from a review of the entire case, that it was intended more to carry out the principle of intimidation, and to compel government to take measures under the control and pressure of the multitude. Mr Smith concluded by quoting from the address of Lord Chief Justice Bushe, in 1803, he being then Solicitor-general, an exhortation to the jury to perform their duty firmly and temperately, with caution, but without fear.

The Court adjourned at five o'clock.

The examination of witnesses was commenced on Thursday by Mr Frederick Bond Hughes, the shorthand writer engaged by government giving in his evidence. His testimony went to prove the various allegations in the indictment, respecting the proceedings at the meetings, commencing with that of Mullaghmast, on the 1st of October, and terminating on the 18th of the same month, when he left for England. Both on the direct and cross examination he admitted that peace, order, and regularity were always observed, not only at the various meetings in the corn exchange which he had witnessed, but also at the great monster meeting at Mullaghmast. He deposed to the truth of the belief that tranquillity and order were preserved at this last vast assemblage by means of the men who called themselves "O'Connell's police," and who were stationed in various places for that purpose on the Rath or mound, upon and around which the mighty multitude were collected together. He declared that, from his experience of public meetings, persons to preserve order were necessary, particularly in such vast throngs as the "monster meetings," and that "O'Connell's police" effectually accomplished that end. In giving his evidence respecting the meeting of the Repeal Association of the 3rd of October, he swore that Mr Steele in his speech on that occasion had, when referring to the monster meeting held at Loughrea a short time previously, said that it surpassed in importance even the meeting at Mullaghmast, where—

"Behemoth, biggest born of earth,
Upheaved its vastness,"

a phrase which it was very generally stated Mr Steele had never pronounced, but that in writing his speech subsequently he had introduced it. On the cross examination no allusion to the use of this language by Mr Steele on that occasion was made. Laughter was produced from time to time during the examination of this witness, who certainly gave his evidence with great fairness and readiness. He withdrew his allegation respecting the presence of Mr Barrett at the Abbey street meeting on the 12th of October, and also at the dinner at the Rotunda.

The other witnesses examined were Mr Latham, assistant to Mr Hughes, who spoke in corroboration, and Mr Charles Ross, correspondent of a London paper, and reporter engaged by government, who gave evidence about the Donnybrook meeting. The

examination of the last was adjourned at the rising of the court.

The examination of Mr Charles Ross in the court of Queen's bench, Dublin, was resumed on Friday morning. The witness read from his notes an account of a meeting held at the Corn exchange on the 28th of August, at which Mr O'Connell brought forward a plan for the restoration of the Irish parliament, and was proceeding also to read a report of a meeting held at the same place on the following day, when Mr Henn, Queen's counsel, took the objection, on behalf of the traversers, that as the witness admitted he had taken a full and verbatim note only of those parts of Mr O'Connell's speech which he thought material, and merely the substance of the other parts, the notes could not be read in evidence.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL and Mr Serjeant WARREN, for the Crown, contended for the admissibility of the evidence, and the court overruled the objection.

The witness then deposed to having attended various meetings at the Corn exchange, in the months of September and October, the monster meeting at Loughrea on the 10th of September, and one at Clifden on the 17th of the same month, and read from his notes an account of the proceedings, the substance of which was stated by the Attorney-general in his opening speech. On the 27th of September a meeting took place at the Corn exchange, when the scheme for the formation of the arbitration courts was finally settled, and several persons were appointed to offices under it. At that meeting the witness was present, and took a note of the proceedings, which he now read to the court. Dr Gray subsequently gave him a copy of the rules which had been framed for the regulation of the courts. He also attended the meeting at Mullaghmast, and took a note of Mr O'Connell's speech, the substance of which was stated by the Attorney-general, and also given in evidence by Mr Hughes.

This witness was subjected to a very severe cross-examination by Mr Henn, Queen's counsel. He admitted that up to that time he had received from the government £400, for the reports he had furnished.

Mr HENN then asked him by whose direction he came? but

Mr Serjeant WARREN objected to the question, and cited the case of "Hardy, Tooke, and others," in which it was ruled that no witness who attended a meeting on the part of the Crown was compelled to state the channel through which he received a direction to attend.

The Court considered the objection valid, and the question was therefore withdrawn.

The witness, however, stated, that previous to his coming to Ireland he had a communication from a person high in office on the subject. The several meetings that he attended were peaceable and orderly, and at none of them was there any tendency to a breach of the peace.

The Court adjourned at the close of his examination.

The first witness called on Saturday morning was Mr JOHN JACKSON, who stated that during the last summer he was the Irish correspondent of the London newspaper, the *Morning Herald*, and had furnished that paper with reports of various meetings of the Repeal Association, which had been held at the Corn Exchange. The witness produced the original transcript of his notes which he had forwarded to the *Morning Herald*, and which had been sent back to Ireland for the purpose of this trial. His evidence, however, was unimportant, except so far as it proved various documents, which he had received at the meetings from some of the traversers, to have been issued by the association. Amongst them were the plans for the restoration of the Irish parliament and the establishment of the arbitration courts.

On his being cross-examined by Mr FITZGIBBON and Mr WHITESIDE, he admitted that he was not a regular reporter, and had frequently availed himself of the notes of others, or taken portions from the Irish newspapers to make up the report which he forwarded to London.

At the close of the cross-examination of this witness, counsel on part of the traversers applied to have his evidence altogether expunged, as, upon his own showing, he was a totally incompetent witness.

The Court conceived the matter well deserving of consideration, but the present was not the time to argue it.

JOHN BROWNE, the printer employed by the Repeal Association, was the next witness examined. He proved a variety of documents printed by him, addresses of the Association, instructions to repeal wardens, &c.

The document headed "Instructions for the Appointment of Repeal Wardens" was produced, and about to be read by the Clerk of the Crown, upon which

Mr M'DONOUGH, one of the counsel for the traversers, contended that these documents could not be received, because they were not included in the bill of particulars supplied by the Crown to the traversers.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL argued that in a case of conspiracy there was no necessity to state in the bill particulars the evidence on which the prosecution relied.

After hearing Mr MOORE, Queen's counsel for the traversers, and the SOLICITOR-GENERAL for the Crown, on the same point,

The Court gave their decision for the admissibility of the documents, and shortly afterwards adjourned.

During both days of the Attorney-general's speech the court was crowded with ladies, and a daughter

of Mr Smith sat on the bench, opposite her father, while he addressed her ermined and bewigged companion!

LETTER FROM MR O'BRIEN.—At the meeting a letter was read from Mr Smith O'Brien, *apropos* to Lord John Russell's promised motion on Ireland, evidently distrusting the whig tactics. Mr O'Brien suggests that, instead of attending in parliament, playing into the hands of English parties, the Irish members should, with others, be formed into committees in Ireland, to arrange the heads of a bill for the redress of Irish grievances, to be submitted to the Repeal Association, and embodied in a memorial to the Queen. He thinks such a plan would stimulate ministers to vie with them in attempting useful measures. Circumstances, such as the introduction of a coercion bill, might make it expedient for the whole body of Irish members to repair to London to offer their opposition; the interests of constituents in private bills might also summon individual members; and he deprecates any formal secession of Irish members from parliament until a majority of them are pledged to the cause of repeal. He wants the opinion of O'Connell and the press on these points.

THE TITHE RENT CHARGE.—The Dublin correspondent of the *Times* mentions a rumoured government measure of reform:—"I have heard it stated, on what deserves to be considered a competent authority upon such a subject, that there is now every probability of a measure being submitted to parliament, perhaps in the course of the ensuing session, having for its object the total relief of Roman Catholics from the payment of the tithe rent charge. A high church dignitary, supposed to be in the confidence of Sir Robert Peel, is, I am informed, at present engaged in making the necessary inquiries throughout a diocese as to the number of persons, being members of the Roman Catholic church, chargeable with this impost, and, as nearly as can be ascertained, its amount."

REPEALERS AND MR CRAWFORD'S PLAN.—On Sunday week a meeting of the Roman Catholics of Galway was held, to protest against the conduct of government in excluding members of that communion from the special jury. Dr Browne, the Catholic bishop, took the chair, and in the course of his speech threw out the following suggestions, which expose him to the ire of the *Times*, which says that "less dangerous sentiments have, ere now, subjected the speakers to the consideration of her Majesty's attorney-general:"—

"He (Dr Browne) deliberately gave it as his opinion, and he begged that the press would note his words, that if the government proceed to persecute their religion—if they proceed to heap upon it insult and slander, and render the Emancipation act a dead letter—the people of Ireland, who have conquered themselves and made sacrifices to conscience of which no other nation can afford a parallel—if the government continue to insult and trample on them, though they will never break the law nor violate any command of God, they may say—'We gave up the use of whisky before, and now, in retaliation for the wrongs and insults inflicted upon us, we will forbear the use of every excisable article' [tremendous cheering]. They may also direct their representatives to obstruct, as far as the forms of parliament will admit, all public business, and even join, if the Liberator approve of it, Mr W. S. Crawford, in stopping the supplies—if they do not give the Irish people fair play, liberty, and freedom of conscience, and permit them to proceed with their business unpersecuted and unassailed [loud cheers]. These were the honest sentiments of his heart, and he felt a pleasure in giving them expression, as he would feel in hearing any other gentleman who might choose to address them do the same."

ROMAN CATHOLIC MEETINGS.—Accounts of meetings on the subject of the special jury in all parts of the country have been received. Some hundreds of parish meetings were held on Sunday and yesterday, to protest against the conduct of the Crown in excluding Roman Catholics from the special jury list on the state prosecutions. Among the places at which meetings have been held are Limerick, Drogheda, Dundalk, Mallow, Galway, and Banagher.

MEETING AT CHARLEMONT HOUSE.—A meeting, attended by upwards of fifty liberal noblemen and other gentlemen of mark, was held at Lord Charlemont's house in Dublin, on Thursday, to consider the course most judicious to be pursued in the present state of Ireland. It was unanimously resolved to petition both houses of Parliament for redress of leading grievances; including, says the *Dublin Monitor*, "the state of the representation, the acknowledged abuses of the church establishment, the oppressive and unequal amount of taxation to which this country is subject;" and to make the petition the groundwork of a substantive motion in each house.

The following are extracts from the papers relative to the state trials:—

"Mr O'Connell sat with his counsel as before, in legal costume, and was busied throughout the day with books and papers. For some time he sat next to Mr Sheil, M.P., on the bench immediately under the judges. Mr Sheil seemed to be watching the points of the Attorney-general with great attention. It may be considered certain that he lets nothing escape him."

"There is a general impression that the conviction of O'Connell by this jury is certain. Had all Dublin been picked, it is said that twelve men so well disposed to carry out the views of the Crown could hardly have been found. It is remarked that the names of the jury are all English, and five of them wine-merchants."

"COUNSEL IN THE CASE.—It will be interesting to know how the legal talent of the Irish bar is distributed, upon these important trials, and to know the relative position of traversers and prosecutors as to the counsel employed. Mr O'Connell, a host in himself, needs no description from us. He will address the jury in his own behalf. Mr Henn, second to none in power, or in skill, and whose authority is of great weight; Mr Whitesides, an earnest and enthusiastic advocate, who delights

in encountering difficulties that he may overcome them; Mr M'Donough, learned, quick of perception, and always prepared; Mr Moore, a thorough lawyer, energetic, and a sound logician; Mr Fitzgibbon, clear in argument, shrewd, bold, yet careful; Mr Pigott, cautious, doubting, but safe, certain, and powerful; Mr Hatchell, penetrating, dexterous, and a terror to the prevaricator; Mr Monahan, able, quick in perception, and sound in expression; and though last, not least, Mr Sheil, whose eloquence will pierce the ear, and whose reasoning can reach the mind—form the silk-gownsmen of the bar for the traversers. Joined with them, as juniors, are Sir Colman O'Loughlin, Mr Close, and Mr O'Hagan, all of whom are learned, enthusiastic in their clients' cause, and fast rising in their profession. The most remarkable barrister amongst the counsel for the traversers is Mr Sheil. From the very copious notes of the Attorney-general's speech that he has taken, and his close attention to the case, it is likely that he will make a very long, and we need scarcely say a very effective and brilliant, address to the jury. Mr Sheil is not so far advanced in life as Mr O'Connell. He does not in his appearance indicate the possession of that tact in destructive sarcasm for which he is distinguished, and which even Lord Stanley has repeatedly felt. On the contrary, he seems to be a good-natured, little, pleasant, gentlemanly person. Like Mr O'Connell, he belongs to the Roman Catholic church; in politics he is a whig, and a little more."

"For the Crown, Mr Smith, the Attorney-general, brave as a lion, spiteful as a cat—learned enough for ten lawyers, yet without judgment or temper for one; Mr Greene, the Solicitor-general, lucid, placid, sincere, and argumentative; Mr Brewster, powerful in sarcasm, severe, skilful in manoeuvres, and learned in quibbles; Mr Holmes, whose talents are of first-rate order; Mr Bennet, the leader of the Munster bar, and fit to lead it, by his mental talents and kind disposition; Mr Napier, skilled in all the depths of pleading and legal proceedings; Mr Tombe, artful, crafty, and able; Mr Freeman, Mr Martler, Mr Smiley, and Mr Baker, complete the array for the Crown."

SCOTLAND.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—The deputation from the Anti-corn-law League have had this week a busy time of it over Scotland. As had been previously arranged, Mr Cobden and Mr Moore started for the principal towns on the other side of the Forth, after the Edinburgh meeting had been concluded, and Col. Thompson and Mr Bright came this way, for the west and south of the country. On Monday, the Greenock and Paisley meetings were held. On Tuesday, Col. Thompson and Mr Bright addressed the farmers at Ayr during the day, and the manufacturers of Kilmarnock in the evening. On Wednesday afternoon they met the farmers of the district, and the people of Dumfries, in that town, which terminated the meetings of these two gentlemen in Scotland for this occasion.—*Glasgow Post*.

Interesting meetings have also been held at Perth, Cupar, and other places. At the meeting at the former place Mr Fox Maule presided, and a large proportion of the audience were farmers. At Cupar Messrs Cobden and Moore were presented with the freedom of the burgh, and guild tickets. Two-thirds of the audience were farmers; and among the gentlemen present were Sir David Brewster; D. M. M. Crichton, Esq., of Rankellour; Jas Aytoun, Esq.; and a large number of ministers. The amount of subscriptions to the League fund has not yet been made known.

MEETING OF ROMAN CATHOLICS.—At a public meeting of the Roman Catholics of Glasgow, held on Monday evening, the 16th inst, Bishop Murdoch in the chair, resolutions denouncing the omission and striking off of Catholics duly qualified by the Dublin law officers "as an act of glaring partiality and degrading wrong—a reckless and galling insult to the whole body of Irish Catholics, and a partial repeal of Catholic emancipation;" and that such conduct "was a gross insult to the Irish people, and to all Catholics in general," were unanimously agreed to.

ANTI-CORN-LAW MEETING, JEDBURGH, JAN. 20.—This has been the day set apart for the Roxburghshire anti-corn-law demonstration, and the success of the whole must have been gratifying to all, excepting those who were unable to obtain admittance to the meeting. In the early part of the day large numbers from Hawick, comprising master and workman, entered the town; these, along with the population of the town and many attendants from the surrounding villages, formed a large assemblage. The deputation from the League, consisting of Colonel Thompson, Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., and R. R. Moore, Esq., arrived about two o'clock, and were received with great enthusiasm. The place of the meeting was the Secession Church, although it was generally understood that it would be an outdoor meeting; this not being the case, led to the disappointment of many hundreds, who went away without hearing the deputation. On the doors being opened, the house was speedily filled—presenting one general cluster of human beings. There might be nearly 2000 persons within. The Earl of Buchan presided, and the meeting was successively addressed by the members of the deputation. Mr Cobden's speech was admirable, and fell with convincing force upon the intelligent auditory. The father of free-trade was received with great applause, and spoke with his well-known sententious vigour, while Mr Moore was highly eloquent and fervid. The proceedings were conducted with the greatest harmony and order. Mr Cobden and Mr Moore alike declared that it was the most observant, intelligent, and enthusiastic audience they had ever seen in Scotland, and that they were far from expecting such a state of opinion on the subject in this agricultural district. There was a very considerable attendance of farmers—many of them Tories. The prospects of the free-traders have set the monopolists all by the ears. "There has been a rustling amid the straw" at

Haddington, and the "lairds" commenced wailing Dame Partington's mop yesterday at Kelso, by concocting an Anti-Anti-Corn-law Society. It is said they have commenced by infringing one of the laws affecting political societies; if so, we hope some considerable suffragist will forward them the Union's "Epitome of Statutes" on that subject.

Miscellaneous.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM PREVISION.—A correspondent of Saturday's *Spectator*, who is described by the editor as "a gentleman well known to us for habits of careful observation and for scrupulous veracity," relates the following interesting case:—

On Monday, the 25th December, I magnetised Mrs H—, a married lady, twenty-eight years of age. She had been magnetised at intervals, during the preceding year, altogether about six times. Upon each occasion she had manifested some degree of lucidity; and, in the only instance when the experiment was tried, she had answered readily to the action of my hand upon the various phrenological organs. On the present occasion I magnetised her solely for the improvement of her health, as she was suffering from weakness and a pain in her breast, the results of a confinement eight weeks back. In other respects her health was good.

In less than two minutes from the commencement of the magnetising process, she passed into a state of somnambulism. I then addressed her—"How do you feel?" She made no answer. I repeated the question two or three times, without success; but in a few moments she exclaimed, with an expression of great anguish—"Oh, pretty well; but I shall soon be dreadfully ill." "When shall you be ill? now, while you are being magnetised?"—"No, in two days' time." "At what hour?"—"Three in the afternoon." "Can nothing be done to avert it?"—"Nothing." "What will it result from? an accident, or natural causes?"—"Natural causes." Can you tell me anything that should be done? Will magnetism afford you service?"—"Yes; it cannot avert the attack, but it may do much good. It will be a spasmodic attack, and after a little while it will extend to the heart. The heart will not be originally affected; but the violence of the suffering will cause it to be affected sympathetically, and there will then be danger. Magnetism may remove this." "And will it not remove the other sufferings?"—"No." Then after a pause, she added—"It cannot remove them entirely; but I think it may mitigate them." "At what time after the attack should I commence the magnetic passes?"—"In about half an hour." "How long will the attack last?"—"From an hour to an hour and a quarter. It will be dreadfully severe; but it will not prove fatal. I shall have more of them. I have much suffering to undergo." "When will the next attack take place?"—"I cannot see." "What description of passes should I make on Wednesday, in order to relieve the heart?"—"Commence just under the heart, and make long passes to the feet." "During what time am I to continue them?"—"About five minutes. You must also make passes across my back, if possible." How long will it be before you cease to suffer from these attacks?"—"About eight months." "Will magnetism benefit you during that time?"—"Materially."

She still manifested much apprehension and anguish. "Come," I said, "you must not be sad. I am sure that you can bear pain with patience; and, as it will all end well, you must not give way to despondency." "Ah!" she exclaimed, "I think of my children, and my husband—I know what he will feel."

I now ceased speaking to her for a minute or two; afterwards I said, "You must tell me if you desire to say anything more, or if you would rather sleep?"—"I think you had better awaken me."

I demagnetised her accordingly. She awoke instantly, and (as on all former occasions) totally unconscious of having uttered a single word. She said, however, that she was not so much refreshed as usual, and that her head felt as if she had been engaged in the most intense thought. To relieve this, I magnetised her again for a few minutes; and when she was again awakened, she stated herself perfectly restored. I then took my leave; previously agreeing with Mr H— that no intimation should be given to his wife of what had passed.

On the following day, I saw Mr H—; when he stated, that during the preceding evening his wife had enjoyed excellent spirits, and that she still continued in a satisfactory state. On the Wednesday morning, he told me that he had left her in apparently good health, excepting that she seemed in a state of depression which almost caused him to apprehend that her prediction would be verified. She was herself, however, free from any anticipation of evil.

In the afternoon, I proceeded to her house, intending to reach it at about half-past three, which according to her prediction would be half an hour after the commencement of the attack, the time at which she had stated that magnetism should be resorted to. Having, however, little expectation that my services would be required (since I was inclined to regard her forebodings merely as the result of a momentary sadness), I did not pay any particular attention to punctuality, and it was twenty-two minutes to four when I arrived.

I found her extended upon a sofa, in the severest agony. Her pain drew from her repeated cries, and I learned that she had been seized with a violent spasmodic affection.

I immediately commenced making the passes below the heart, which she had directed during her somnambulism on the preceding Monday. "Does that give you relief?"—"Oh yes; it greatly relieves the heart." I then raised her to a sitting posture, and commenced the passes across her back. "Oh! that gives still more relief—it takes it entirely away from the left side; but the general pain remains the same."

She sank, apparently still suffering most severely from attacks of pain in the epigastric region, which seemed to threaten suffocation. She began, however, after I had made a few passes, to experience some short intervals of ease. During one of them I asked, "At what time were you attacked?"—"Half an hour or three quarters of an hour before you came; nearer three-quarters of an hour." "Was it sudden?"—"Quite. I was in the passage, and was obliged to call one of the servants to help me to this room. It seemed to suspend animation. In about twenty minutes, or more, it attacked my heart; the blood seemed to fill my head, and I was much alarmed. It continued till you came; my sufferings

were dreadful: but now the pains seem no longer to affect the heart."

She still continued to experience paroxysms, which I was only able partially to relieve. At intervals she exclaimed, "Oh, how fortunate you happened to call! I feel as if you had saved me."

She complained of fullness of the head, and directed me to make two or three passes over her forehead; which gave her instant relief. At length, at about six or seven minutes past four, the pains seemed rapidly to subside. She fell into a calm sleep, her countenance assuming an expression of perfect composure; and from this, at about twenty minutes past four, she awakened in good spirits, and, although greatly exhausted, perfectly free from pain.

She continued to dwell upon the "fortunate" circumstance of my having called; and I left her in the full belief that the visit had been an accidental one.

Since the above occasion, she has been magnetised several times; and she now predicts, with rigid accuracy, the state of her health for several consecutive days. On the 7th of this month, she announced a slight attack to occur at eleven o'clock on the morning of the 11th, which would not extend to the heart, and another severe attack at three p.m. on the 15th, in which that organ would again be comprised. On both occasions the prediction was fulfilled, even in its minutest particulars.

I may mention, in conclusion, that until the attack above described, she had never experienced any indisposition in which the heart was supposed to be in the slightest degree affected.

Literature.

The Protestant Reformation in all Countries; including Sketches of the State and Prospects of the Reformed Churches. A Book for Critical Times. By the Rev. John Morison, D.D. Fisher and Co. 1843.

THOSE who look attentively at the impulses of society cannot fail to recognise, in the great Reformation, many features of The Divine. That reformation was no project cradled in deliberations, and carefully nursed up to maturity. Its plans were neither debated in councils nor demonstrated in efforts of united action. Its progress could not be even strictly called consecutive. The same mysterious Providence, which often causes genius to shine in galaxies, set fire simultaneously to many distant minds. Singly and alone they burned for a time—they then began to spread as they went; till at length a mutual attraction brought all the parts together into a vast conflagration. We might call the result one of the greatest of miracles, were it not that the power of truth is a law of nature, and that the reformation consisted in the assertion of this law, and not in its suspension.

Profound, however, as is our admiration of the men whom neither hope nor fear could keep away from the allegiance they owed to God—who would that he should be great, whatever councils or Vatican might decree to the contrary—it is not without a feeling of humiliation that we venture to applaud them. Greatness is but a term of comparison, and praise not unfrequently indicates the low standard of those who award it. Far be it from us to decry that work in which we truly believe much of God's own special operation was distinctly apparent. We believe it, on the contrary, to be a spectacle so magnificent, that it cannot be set before the world too often. Yet what is religion itself but reformation? and whilst the world is evil, and error ever prone to gather round the good, what is involved in the very fact of the continuance of religion, but that it shall be kept alive by a series of successive reformations? Unless, then, Luther's reformation had so paralysed the evil it encountered, as that it should never appear in any formidable shape again, ought not the experiment to be regarded as only one of a series to be constantly carried on, and of a series becoming at each step more courageous, more powerful, and unspeakably more grand, because with each advance more spiritual? The reformers' manifestation of truth would thus be a pattern, and only a pattern—but a pattern which successive generations would incomparably improve. Would not one suppose that after such an exemplification that the scales of error were not impervious—after the discovery that there was no Stygian river in which the champion of the false system could become invulnerable—Christianity would go on in a progressive march of victorious conquest? Especially should this be obligatory, when we can detect, in the progress of the movement, the errors which crippled its power. But the reformation is the "great reformation" still; and instead of being the starting point upon which future generations look down, amazed at its apparent altitude, it is to us the elevation which excites our wonder, from the fact that it should have been reached at all.

These remarks have pressed upon us whilst reading the work which stands at the head of our article. Dr Morison has "done the state some service." With great pains he has set before his readers a graphic, vigorous, comprehensive description of the movement which shook Europe to its centre, and poured the tide of religious investigation into almost every corner of the civilised world. We admire the plan of the work; and its execution, so far as descriptive writing is concerned, leaves us nothing to wish for.

But—for but must be in all the history of human production—we wish the author had felt at liberty

to "speak out" on some of the points which come under his investigation. Few dare to tell the whole truth, though never was a subject more inviting. We cannot but regard every man who writes on the reformation as bound to inquire into the causes of its failure, as well as into those of its success, and to point out faithfully the errors which have encumbered its growth and dwarfed its proportions. Till these evils be attacked, we cannot see how "critical times" can be fully provided for. The vermin of Puseyism will be found so long as there are congenial abuses to fatten on. Sweep the room we may—but, so long as the old dust is not removed, to what purpose? A history of the reformation, written for the benefit of a church existing two hundred years after it—a history of the dawn, written for the benefit of those who live later in the day, is a desideratum still.

Whilst, however, we frankly venture on these remarks, let us not be understood as undervaluing Dr M.'s production. There are many who would not read such a work as we have indicated, to whom this will be highly acceptable. Indeed, to any reader it will prove a valuable compendium of historical facts; not, perhaps, collated from original authorities, but industriously brought together from more recent publications.

The following extract, from the end of the volume, will exemplify an excellency for which the work is remarkable—its admirable narrative style. It relates to the last days of Wishart:—

"Two friars announced to him the time appointed for his execution, and exhorted him to confess; he received their tidings joyfully, and bore their insults meekly and patiently, but would not consent to hold any conference with them. At the awful hour agreed on, the gentle and benevolent Wishart was led forth by his executioners to the scene of martyrdom. The spot fixed on for the deed of horror was the area of the castle. Afraid of the popular indignation, Beatoun caused all the guns of the fortress to be pointed to the stake on which Wishart perished, that, if any attempt should be made to rescue him, the whole force of the artillery might be brought to bear on the populace. The martyr was attired in a white linen garment, around which were suspended small bags of gunpowder, placed there by order of Beatoun, who dreaded the effects of a lingering death upon the minds of a bold and exasperated peasantry. All things were now ready, and Beatoun and the other prelates were seated in a conspicuous place, to enjoy the high pleasures of the day. On ascending the stake, which he did with the utmost self-possession, Wishart first commended himself to the God of his salvation, and implored that aid from on high which his trying circumstances required; he then turned to the multitude, and exhorted them not to depart from those truths which he had taught them, nor to allow themselves to be intimidated by those sufferings which he was about to endure; for, like him, they would be supported in the hour of trial. He again prayed, and in a moment the executioner kindled the combustibles by which he was surrounded; but, though the powder had exploded, the meek sufferer still exhibited symptoms of remaining life; yet, amidst excruciating tortures, no murmuring sentence escaped his lips, nor did his courage abate to the last. . . . The account which I have given of Wishart's dying testimony is such as might easily be mistaken or misrepresented. He describes him as thus appealing to the people:—'I beseech you, brethren and sisters, to exhort your prelates to the learning of the word of God, that they, at least, may be ashamed to do evil, and may learn to do good; and if they will not convert themselves from their wicked errors, then shall hastily come upon them the wrath of God, which they will not eschew.' The only semblance of evidence upon which Wishart has been charged with the crime of knowing of the conspiracy against Beatoun is a letter from the Earl of Harcourt to Henry the Eighth; but two things are fatal to this document—first, it was not to be found where the enemies of Wishart said it was deposited; and, second, even by their own showing it was said to bear date even two years before the cardinal's death, and, therefore, if it had any existence at all, it must have been written before Beatoun had evinced any enmity against Wishart, or any thought of the conspiracy, which terminated his life, existed in men's minds."—p. 399, 401.

The Teacher's Manual; a Repository of Practical Suggestions and Biblical Illustrations. G. and J. Dyer.

THIS periodical is in general admirably calculated for its object—that object being to promote the efficient working of Sunday schools. It is practical, instructive, and satisfactorily devotional. We think it may compete with any of the magazines on the same subject. We will not pledge ourselves to agree with it in every minor detail, especially in the "justemilieu" system it is now so fashionable to adopt on certain critical questions. But it is a periodical calculated at once to excite the Sunday school teacher, and to furnish him with materials for his work.

The Pictorial Museum of Animated Nature; with Five Thousand Woodcuts. Part 12. Charles Knight.

THIS is one of those little illustrated productions which do so much credit to Mr Charles Knight's *ménage*, making little children stand on tiptoe, and mothers' hearts dance within them, and fathers wish they were young again.

Astronomy and Scripture; or, some Illustrations of that Science, and of the Solar, Lunar, Stellar, and Terrestrial phenomena of Holy Writ. By the Rev. T. MILNER, M.A. London, Snow.

WE have examined this work with some attention, more particularly with a view to the interest and instruction of the young. It will fill up an important chasm in the juvenile library. Together with a statement of the principal facts of astronomy, it elucidates and explains many difficulties which may occur to children or to parents in the allusions of holy writ. Mr Milner has performed his task very successfully, and those parents who employ his work will not be slow in awarding to him their gratitude.

Rachel of Padanaram, Type of the Church. A Sacred History from the Mosaic Record. By W. ARCHER. London: Simpkin and Co.

We shall best characterise this little volume, and no doubt give our readers an intelligible description of it, when we say, it is of the historico-allegorico-critico-mystico-poetico-platonic class. If this do not render its meaning apparent, we cannot better exemplify it. With some learning, and much imagination, many of its allusions render it by no means suitable for the young; and it is by far too fanciful for the old. If it be intended, as it seems to be, as a modern exemplification of the Platonism of many of the fathers, we can only say for ourselves, that it is a style we have no desire to see revived. Leah represents active life, or the law; Rachel, contemplation, or the gospel church. In her secreting the idols of her father, we have the symbol "of the true church depriving its backsliding members of their gross idols," &c., &c. Whether the volume will find favour with the Puseyite school, we do not know—we are sure it is little calculated to suit any other meridian. There is much poetical merit—but that disfigured by mysticism. If there be any other excellency, it has escaped our notice.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *The Church Expositor*. No. 1.
2. *Simmonds's Colonial Magazine*. No. 1.
3. *Almanack and Pocket Companion*. Froud, Dorchester.
4. *Poor Man's Companion and Almanack for 1844*. Cleave, Shoe lane.
5. *The Happy Transformation*. Dyer.
6. *The Baptist Record*, January. Dyer.
7. *British and Foreign Review*, January. Taylor, Red Lion court.
8. *Municipal Poor Law Gazette*.
9. *The Provident Philanthropist, and Supplement*.
10. *Old England*. Parts 1, 2, 3. Charles Knight.
11. *Teacher's Offering*, 1843, and January, 1844.
12. *The National Temperance Magazine*, January.
13. *The Children and Youths' Temperance Magazine*, January.
14. *The Youths' Biblical Cabinet*, January.
15. *The Aristocracy of Britain, and the Laws of Entail and Primogeniture*.
16. *The Edinburgh Messenger*.
17. *Report of the Edinburgh Institution for the Deaf and Dumb*.
18. *A Plan for the Junction of Corn Law Repealers, Chartists, Complete Suffragists, and Farmers*.
19. *The Free Church Magazine*, January.
20. *The Wrongs of our Youth; an Essay on the Evils of the Late Hour System*. By R. B. GRINDROD, LL.D.
21. *The Pictorial Sunday Book*. Charles Knight.
22. *Trial of Pedro de Zulueta, Jun.*
23. *The Protestant Dissenters' Catechism*. By the late Rev. S. PALMER.
24. *State and Prospects of the Penny Postage*. By ROWLAND HILL.
25. *The Olive Leaf, or Peace Magazine*, January.

Religious Intelligence.

THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE.—On Tuesday week, in the evening, a tea party was given at Ducie chapel, to the members of the church and congregation worshipping, as well as to the friends and contributors to the maintenance of the gospel, in that place. At this convivial meeting facts were stated strongly illustrative of the advantageous working of the "voluntary principle." It appears that the beautiful and commodious edifice in which the meeting took place owes its erection to circumstances originating in a congregation which a few years ago assembled in a room in Cable street, George's street, among the very poorest part of the population in Manchester. By the indefatigable exertions and devotedness of the preacher (the Rev. E. H. Nolan), a congregation was brought together, a Sunday school established, and ultimately a church formed. The success which attended his ministrations was so decisively manifest, that the Christian public, in order to enlarge the sphere of his labours, erected that beautiful structure called Ducie chapel. A debt of about £1300 remained upon the building, which Dr Nolan lately proposed to raise by subscriptions, and in the course of a few weeks upwards of £1400 have been raised. The congregation worshipping in Ducie chapel, although so recently called into existence, raised no less than £860. The tea party was held in the large school-room under the chapel, and there was an overflowing attendance of both sexes—the ladies predominating. The room was most tastefully fitted up for the occasion. Letters were read from Alderman Kershaw, the Rev. Dr Halley, and others, apologising for their unavoidable absence. After tea the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Dr Nolan, Mr G. Stonier, Rev. J. W. Massie, Rev. J. L. Poore, Saml Fletcher, Esq., Rev. R. Fletcher, J. Hewitt, Esq., Rev. J. Hoyle, Rev. J. Keeling, &c., and resolutions were passed, thanking the contributors, congratulating the people of Ducie chapel on their successful exertions in removing the building debt, and also for raising subscriptions amounting to £80 a year for the purpose of immediately commencing a day school. The proceedings of the evening, which were of a most interesting character, terminated about eleven o'clock.—*Manchester Times*.

TESTIMONIAL.—At a tea meeting, held on Tuesday evening, 2nd instant, on the occasion of the resignation of Mr W. Robinson, his friends, both of the church and congregation, assembling in Sion chapel, Folkestone, presented him with a purse of gold, in token of their affection and esteem, and as a memorial of his earnest and faithful labours. On being presented with the memorial by a member of the church, Mr Robinson returned thanks in an appropriate and affectionate address, in which he was followed by Messrs Clark and Parkins, ministers in the same town. The meeting was interesting, and deeply impressive.

ZION CHAPEL, DOVER.—Mr Thomas Parry, late of Newport, has accepted the cordial invitation of the first congregational church (Zion chapel), Dover, to become their pastor, and (D.V.) will commence his stated ministrations on the first Sabbath in February.

OPENING OF MYRTLE STREET BAPTIST CHAPEL, LIVERPOOL.—This elegant place of worship, a description of which we gave a few weeks ago, was opened for divine worship on Wednesday last, when sermons were preached in the morning and evening. In the morning, the Rev. J. Lister, minister of the place, opened the service by reading the 132nd and 145th Psalms, and offering up a fervent prayer for God's blessing on the edifice, and the means which should be there used for the conversion of sinners. An eloquent and appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Dowson, of Bradford, who selected for his text the 7th verse of the 16th chapter of St John. The Rev. Dr Raffles offered up the concluding prayer and pronounced the blessing. The chapel was well filled in every part by a highly respectable congregation. In the evening there was a much more numerous attendance, the chapel being densely crowded in every part. The Rev. Mr Birchell, of Rochdale, conducted the introductory services, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. J. E. Giles, of Leeds, from the first verse of the 90th Psalm. The Rev. R. B. Lancaster concluded the services. After each sermon a handsome collection was made towards defraying the expenses of the erection. The place, when lighted up, has a light, airy, and handsome appearance. The soft and mellow tones of the organ gave general satisfaction, and the singing was ably conducted. The Rev. O. Winslow, of Leamington, will preach on Sunday morning and evening, and the Rev. Dr Raffles will preach in the afternoon. The edifice itself is greatly admired, and we perceive, from an advertisement in our present paper, that Mr Lacy has published a print of it, to match with that of Great George street chapel.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

JUVENILE MISSIONARY MEETING.—On Wednesday evening, a very interesting and somewhat novel missionary meeting was held at Castlegate meeting-house, it being expressly designed for children and young persons. The immediate object in view was to report the sums collected by some young friends belonging to the three independent congregations in aid of the fund for purchasing a new missionary ship. We are happy to announce that the young friends have collected in Nottingham, towards this object, during their Christmas holidays, £51 6s., in sums varying from £13 13s., down to a few shillings. At the meeting on Wednesday evening, there appeared to be upwards of 300 children present, and the occasion was sanctioned by the presence of a great number of adults. Some appropriate hymns were composed expressly for the occasion, by Mrs Gilbert and Mrs Wilson. At half-past six o'clock, the chair was taken by Richard Morley, Esq., treasurer of the Nottingham Auxiliary Missionary society; and, after singing and prayer, addresses were delivered by the Rev. S. M'All, the Rev. H. Hunter, C. H. Clark, Esq., the Rev. J. Wild, and the Rev. J. Gilbert. The speakers expressed their admiration of the behaviour of the children. Not only was their conduct marked by the utmost decorum, but, without excepting the youngest, they paid a fixed and wakeful attention to the proceedings, till the comparatively late hour of nine o'clock. The addresses were suitably enlivened by anecdotes; which, however, were not necessary to remove any apparent listlessness on the part of the auditory. A collection was made at the close, by which the amount sent from this neighbourhood, towards the purchase of the "children's vessel," will be raised to £60.—*Notts Review*.

KENDAL NEW CHAPEL.—The foundation stone of a new chapel and school room was laid, on new year's day, by Mr J. Guthrie, A.M. The school-room will occupy the ground floor, and cover an area of about 40ft by 50ft. The chapel will be above the school-room, and be capable of seating 500—350 below, and 150 in an end gallery; the approach is by a flight of steps through a neat portico at one corner of the building. The cost of the erection is expected to be about £800, nearly £700 of which has been raised by the congregation and friends. The cost of ground is £240. The necessity for this new place of worship arises from Mr Guthrie—formerly a minister of the secession, and a member of the Lancashire Presbytery—having been suspended, and, on refusing to obey the synodical dictum, dismissed by the synod that met in May last in Edinburgh. On this becoming known to the congregation over which Mr Guthrie presided in Kendal, they almost unanimously agreed to forward to him a requisition to return and continue his ministry, which had been useful and acceptable, among them. To this he acceded, and from that time to the present they have met in the Odd Fellows' hall, a large convenient room, capable of seating about 300.

SHEERNESS.—The Sabbath school children connected with Bethel chapel, Sheerness, under the pastoral care of Mr Edward Price, having had the subject of the missionary ship brought under their notice by their teachers, commenced giving and collecting contributions in aid thereof in good earnest. The handsome sum of £20 has been realised, and will be handed over to the treasurers forthwith. This exertion is the more creditable, as the chapel premises and school are considerably in debt.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF IRELAND.—A public meeting in aid of this society was held in Grosvenor street chapel on Thursday evening. A deputation, consisting of Dr Urwick, of Dublin; Mr King, of Cork; and Mr Smith, of Newry; attended to state the claims, and explain the objects of the union. The attendance was large, though the chapel was not crowded; and, as a mistake had arisen by changing the evening of meeting, and it was held simultaneously with the great anti-corn-law meeting, we think the numbers present must have proved that a considerable interest was felt in the "state of Ireland," and "the claims of the Irish Independent

Home Missions." The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Dr Urwick, of Dublin; the Rev. Alexander King, of Cork; and the Rev. William Smith, of Newry; when a resolution, expressive of deep interest in the state of Ireland, of cordial approval of the Congregational Union of Ireland, and commending it to the sympathy and liberality of the British churches, was passed unanimously. Dr Davidson, Dr Clunie, and other ministers, engaged to receive contributions for the society, and as there was no collection, several persons came forward to offer their donations.—*Manchester Times*.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 17, at Turnham-green, Middlesex, Mrs W. C. PRATT, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 27, at Surat, East Indies, by Mr William Clarkson, Mr WILLIAM FLOWER, missionary at Surat, to JANE, daughter of Mr FLETCHER, Henly-on-Thames.

Jan. 13, at Salem Chapel, Hull, by the pastor, Mr James Sibree, Mr BENJAMIN WORSFALL, to Miss MARIA ELLIS, both of Hull.

Jan. 15, at Silver-street Chapel, Worcester, Mr THOMAS ALLEN, brushmaker, St Martin street, to Miss CAROLINE WRIGHT, of Tallow hill.

Jan. 16, at the Baptist Chapel, Evesham (being the first marriage solemnized therein), by Mr James Allen, of Alcester, Mr JOHN DETHRIDGE (minister of the place), to ELIZA TOWNSEND, only daughter of Thomas White, Esq., late Mayor of that borough.

Jan. 18, at Westgate Chapel, Bradford, Mr DAVID SMITH, cloth manufacturer, to ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of John HAINSWORTH, Esq., cloth manufacturer and mill-owner, all of Farsley.

Jan. 22, at Latimer Chapel, Mile-end, by Mr R. Saunders, pastor, Mr JABEZ NEWELL, of Market-place, Ratcliff, to SARAH ANN PATMAN, of 4, Tredgar-square, Mile End road.

DEATHS.

Jan. 10, Dr RITCHIE, of St Andrew's, Glasgow, and professor of logic in the University of Edinburgh, at his residence.

Jan. 13, at Southampton, in his 36th year, GEORGE AUGUSTUS FRANCIS RAWDON HASTINGS, Marquis of Hastings. He is succeeded in his titles by the Earl of Rawdon, his only son, who is in his 11th year.

Jan. 13, at Bromyard, Herefordshire, REBECCA HOPKINS, eldest daughter of the late Mr Lewis Hopkins, independent minister, aged 73.

Jan. 13, at his residence, aged 65 years, Mr ISAAC MOSS, one of the senior aldermen of the borough of Stockport, and one of the oldest inhabitants of the Lower Hillgate, at which he had been resident upwards of forty-four years.

Jan. 15, at the residence of Mr W. Williams, independent minister, Carnarvon, in her 26th year, ELLEN, wife of Mr Walter GRIFFITH, one of the agents for the National Anti-corn-law League. Her end was peace.

Jan. 15, at Downside, near Bath, Count MAZZAIGI, author of *Paul and Virginia*, and other works.

Jan. 16, at Bearwood, Berks, aged 24, CATHERINE MARY, the eldest daughter of John WALTER, Esq.

Jan. 17, aged 71, Mr THOMAS HARRIS, of Barking, for many years an efficient deacon of the independent church at the above place. His end was peace.

Jan. 18, at the residence of his son, Mr James Webb, Stoke green, Ipswich, in the 67th year of his age, Mr SAMUEL WEBB, late pastor of the church, Appleby, Leicestershire.

Jan. 22, at Queen's row, Pentonville, in his 80th year, Mr Hobler, for 54 years clerk at the Mansion house.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, Jan. 19.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the 6th and 7th William IV., cap. 85:—

Zoar chapel, Hellingly, Sussex.
Bible Christian chapel, Holsworthy, Devonshire.
Independent chapel, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
HOWE, JOHN, Sheffield, table-knife manufacturer.

BANKRUPT.
BEARUP, WILLIAM, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, joiner and builder, Jan. 26, March 12: solicitor, Mr G. A. Lambert, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

BENTLEY, THOMAS, Eccleston, Lancashire, calico printer, Feb. 1, 29: solicitors, Messrs Alcock and Dixon, Burnley, or Messrs E. and R. W. Bennett, Manchester.

LEWIS, WILLIAM, jun., Axbridge, Somersetshire, baker, Feb. 2, March 1: solicitors, Messrs Robins and Co., Wells, Somersetshire.

REAVELEY, JOHN, Hammond's wharf, Queenhithe, City, paper commission agent, Jan. 26, March 5: solicitor, Mr Cooper, Old Cavendish street.

Tuesday, Jan. 23th.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85.

Zion chapel, Flockton, Yorkshire.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
FRANCE, JAMES, now or late of Manchester, cotton manufacturer.

BANKRUPT.
CLERVE, HENRY, Rettendon, Essex, and late of 31, Edgeware-road, Marylebone, cowkeeper, Jan. 31, March 6: solicitors, Messrs. Rickards and Walker, Lincoln's-inn-fields; and Mr. Clifton, Romford, Essex.

COURTENAY, FRANCIS BURDETT, 42, Great Marlborough-street, bookseller, Feb. 1, March 5, solicitors, Messrs Rutter and Trotter, Ely-place.

ENMINS, WILLIAM, 23, Montpelier row, Brompton, builder, Feb. 6, March 5: solicitor, Mr James Ward, 39, Essex street, Strand.

JACKSON, CHARLES SMITH, Leeds, cloth merchant, Feb. 3, 24: solicitors, Messrs Sudlow and Co., 20, Chancery lane, London, and Messrs T. and J. Lee, Leeds.

MARYON, RICHARD, Chigwell, Essex, blacksmith, February 6, March 5: solicitor, Mr W. B. Buchanan, 8, Basinghall street.

PARR, THOMAS, Liverpool, plumber, February 6, March 5: solicitors, Messrs Reed and Shaw, Friday street, Chapside, London; and Mr John Robinson, Liverpool.

ROBINSON, JAMES, late of Nottingham, but now of Arnold, Nottinghamshire, wharfinger, January 29, February 24: solicitors, Mr Cann, Nottingham; and Mr John Smith, Birmingham.

SHAW, FREDERICK, 60, London wall, City, builder, February 1, March 5: solicitors, Messrs Wadson and Co., Austin friars.

WILLIAMSON, CALLES, 17, Regent street, hosier, January 30, March 12: solicitor, Mr G. Goddard, Wood street.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CRAWFORD, WILLIAM, Dundee, ironmonger, Jan. 26, and Feb. 16.

MERCER, ISAAC, Dunse, currier, Jan. 29, and Feb. 20.

PEARSON, JAMES, Muirhall, Perthshire, embanker, Jan. 27, and Feb. 17.

SMITH, JOHN, Glasgow, grocer, Jan. 29, and Feb. 19.

SMITH, THOMAS COWAN, Edinburgh, insurance broker, Jan. 29, and Feb. 19.

BRITISH FUNDS.

Independently of the purchases of the broker for the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, there have not been any important operations in the stock market during the past week. The consol accounts have been adjusted: and, as a variation from 95 to 97½, ex the dividend, has taken place within the last six weeks, the settling day was rather more heavy than usual; but all the "differences" were duly paid. The consol market on Saturday was effected, to some extent, by the reaction in prices at the Paris Bourse on Thursday.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	96½	96½	96½	97	97½	97½
Ditto for Account	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
3 per cent. Reduced	102½	102½	103	102½	102½	103
New 3½ per cent.	101½	101½	102	102	101½	101½
Long Annuities	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	189	189	190½	191	193	191
India Stock	273½	—	275	275	275	297
Exchequer Bills	67pm	67pm	65pm	65pm	67pm	68pm
India Bonds	80pm	81pm	79pm	—	80pm	80pm

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	113½	Mexican	33½
Belgian	104½	Peruvian	—
Brazilian	77	Portuguese 3 per cent.	71
Buenos Ayres	—	Ditto 3 per cent.	—
Columbian	114	Russian	—
Danish	87	Spanish Active	22½
Dutch 2½ per cent.	54½	Ditto Passive	51
Ditto 5 per cent.	100½	Ditto Deferred	12½

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham & Derby	50	London & Brighton	43½
Birmingham & Gloucester	64	London & Croydon	16½
Blackwall	54	London & Greenwich	5½
Bristol & Exeter	65	Ditto New	—
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Manchester & Birm.	102
Eastern Counties	104	Manchester & Leeds	88
Edinburgh & Glasgow	—	Midland Counties	—
Great North of England	108½	Ditto Quarter Shares	91
Great Western	69½	North Midland	—
Ditto Half	—	Ditto New	—
Ditto Fifts	—	South Eastern & Dover	35
London & Birmingham	342	South Western	74
Ditto Quarter Shares	—	Ditto New	—

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, JAN. 22.

The supply of wheat from Essex and Suffolk this morning was small, but from Kent it was considerable: the condition in general was very indifferent. The real fine qualities, which were scarce, realised last Monday's prices; but all other descriptions were a difficult sale, and lower. There was a limited demand for free foreign at the prices of this day se'nnight, and some inquiry for bonded.

The demand for barley was very slow, and before any progress could be made in its disposal, a decline of 1s. per qr had to be submitted to.

Beans and peas hung heavily on hand, and barely supported former rates.

Oats have been generally held at a small advance, which has only partially been obtained, and not much business has been done.

Wheat, Red New	48 to 57	Malt, Ordinary	53 to 58
Fine	50 to 59	Pale	60 to 63
White	45 to 60	Bye	30 to 37
Fine	58 to 63	Peas, Hog	27 to 33
Flour, per sack	36 to 50	Maple	28 to 33
Barley	20 to 32	Boilers	32 to 38
Malting	31 to 35	Beans, Ticks	26 to 34

	5s.	5d.	DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN.	5s.	5d.
Beans, Pigeon	30 to 33	Wheat	20s. 0d.	—	—
Harrow	27 to 28	Barley	6 to 8	—	—
Oats, Feed	18 to 21	Oats	8 to 10	—	—
Fine	20 to 22	Rye	10 to 6	—	—
Poland	20 to 23	Beans	10 to 6	—	—
Potato	21 to 25	Peas	10 to 6	—	—

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR JAN. 19.

Wheat	50s. 9d.	Wheat	50s. 5d.
Barley	33 0	Barley	32 3
Oats	18 9	Oats	18 7
Rye	33 5	Rye	30 10
Beans	29 8	Beans	30 7
Peas	31 10	Peas	31 7

SEEDS.

The seed market is steady, but there was very little doing, owing in some measure to the density of the fog. Prices remain without alteration, though holders of white cloverseed increase their pretensions. Canaryseed moved off tardily at the terms of this day week, and there was so little doing in other articles that our quotations can only be regarded as nominal.

Linseed	per qr	Clover	per cwt
English, sowing	50s. to 60s.	English, red	46s. to 65s.
Baltic, ditto	—	Ditto, white	—
Ditto, crushing	—	Flemish, pale	44 to 52
Medit. & Odessa	36 to 38	Ditto, fine	70 to 115
Hempseed, small	35 to 38	New Hamb., red	63 to 68
Large	—	Ditto, fine	70 to 122
Canary, new	58 to —	Old Hamb., red	42 to 54
Extra	60 to —	Ditto, fine	70 to 115
Caraway, old	—	French, red	50 to 70
New	57 to 62	Ditto, white	—
Ryegrass, English	—	Coriander	15 to 20
Scotch	—	Old	—
Mustard	per bushel	Rapeseed	per last
Brown, new	12 to 18	English, new	25s. to 26s.
White	10 to 12	Linseed cakes	—
Trufoil	—	English	9s. 10s. to 10s. 0s.
Old	14 to 28	Foreign	5s. to 6s. 10s.
Tares, new	4 to 4 6	Rapeseed cakes	5s. 5s. to 5s. 10s.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 22.

The market for hops has been steady, but there has been less business doing. We quote prices as on this day week:—Pockets, 1843—Sussex, 120s. to 130s.; Wealds, 120s. to 130s.; choice ditto, 125s. to 140s.; East Kent, 145s. to 210s.; Mid. Kent, 140s. to 180s.; ditto bags, 140s. to 175; Farnham pockets, 155s. to 210s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Jan. 22.

The arrivals last week from Ireland were 3409 skins butter, and 2557 bales bacon; and from foreign ports, 3458 casks butter. The butter market continues very firm, with a good demand for the finest Carlowa, Corks, and Limericks, on which a further advance of 1s. to 2s. per cwt has been realised. Other kinds moved heavily, at prices in proportion to quality. Foreign in slow request: Friesland, 104s. to 106s.; Kiel, 100s. to 104s. per cwt. Bacon has been dealt in sparingly and cautiously. The sale for singed sides was limited, as well on board as landed; but holders are not willing sellers at less than 35s. to 39s. per cwt, according to size, &c. Bale and tierce middles, and lard, steady in demand and price. Hams sell slowly at 48s. to 62s. per cwt.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Jan. 22.

The Norfolk "season" for beasts having now commenced, we have to report the arrival of a full average supply of that description of stock, from the above county, for this morning's market; but the receipts from other quarters exhibited a falling off. For the prime Scots, Herefords, runts, and Devons, there was a steady demand, at prices fully equal to those obtained on this day se'nnight; but in the middling and inferior kinds, only a moderate amount of business was transacted. The numbers of sheep were a fair average, and in good condition. Prime Downs and half-breeds freely supported last week's rates, but all other breeds moved off slowly. The veal trade was again active, owing to the supply of calves being small. Pigs were in moderate supply, and steady inquiry.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).			
Beef	2s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.	Veal	4s. 0d. to 5s. 2d.
Mutton	3 0 to 4 4	Pork	3 0 to 4 2

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday 522	3,040	147	380
Monday 2,698	26,720	76	381

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Jan. 22.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.			
Inferior Beef 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.	Inf. Mutton	2s. 8d. to 3s. 0d.	
Middling do 2 6 to 2 8	Mid. ditto	3 2 to 3 6	
Prime large do 2 8 to 3 10	Prime ditto	3 6 to 3 10	
Prime small do 2 0 to 3 4	Veal	3 8 to 4 10	
Large Pork 2 10 to 3 8	Small Pork	3 4 to 4 4	

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 22.

Since our last report there have been some considerable arrivals both from Yorkshire and Scotland. The demand was languid, at former quotations; yet, in consequence of the supply from other districts having been very limited, an advance on some of the best samples was asked.

York reds	per ton 60s. to 80s.	Guernsey whites	—s. to —s.
Devon do	65 to 70	Kent and Essex do	— 55
Scotch do	—	Wisbeach	60 to 65

WOOL.

Sales of English combing wools continue brisk, and prices are gradually improving. There is also rather more doing in clothing wools, and prices are a shade higher. There is more inquiry for low blanket wools.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Jan. 20.—At per load of 36 trusses.			
Coarse Meadow	50s. to 60s.	New Clover Hay	60s. to 97s.
New ditto	—	Old ditto	—
Useful Old ditto	63 to 70	Oat Straw	26 to 28
Fine Upland ditto	72 to 77	Wheat Straw	28 to 30

COAL EXCHANGE, Jan. 22.

Stewart's, 90s. 3d.; Hetton's, 90s. 3d.; Braddyll's Hetton's, 90s. 3d. Ships arrived this week, 121.

KNOWLEDGE FOR THE MILLION.—The fathom, 6 feet, is derived from the height of a full-grown man. A hand, in horse measure, is four inches. An Irish mile 2240 yards; a Scotch mile 1984 yards; an English (or statute) mile 1760 yards. An acre is 4840 square yards; or 69 yards, 1 foot, 8½ inches, each way. A square mile, 1763 yards each way, contains 640 acres. The surface of the sea is estimated at 150,000,000 square miles, taking the whole surface of the globe at 197,000,000 square miles. Its greatest depth is supposed to be equal to the height of the highest mountain, or four miles. Of 100 parts, into which the surface of the earth may be divided, Europe contains 7; Africa 21; Continental Asia 33; New Holland, &c., 8; South America 15; and North America 16.

Advertisements.

This day is published, price One Shilling.

THE TRIAL OF PEDRO DE ZULUETA, jun., in the Central Criminal Court of the City of London, on the 27th, 28th, and 30th of October, 1843, on a Charge of SLAVE TRADING. Reported by J. F. JOHNSON, Short-hand Writer; WITH INTRODUCTORY AND CONCLUDING REMARKS, BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY. London: WARD and Co., 27, Paternoster row; and Office of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, 27, New Broad street.

Just published, 12mo, price 6d., 5s. 6d. per dozen.

THE PROTESTANT DISSENTERS' CATECHISM; containing, I. A Brief History of the Nonconformists. II. The Reasons of the Dissent from the National Church. By the late Rev. SAMUEL PALMER, of Hackney. The Twenty-third Edition. With a preface, by the Rev. JOHN PYS SMITH, D.D., F.R.S., &c. London: JACKSON and WOLFORD, 18, St Paul's Church-yard; and to be had of all Booksellers.

THE ARISTOCRACY OF BRITAIN, and the Laws of Entail and Primogeniture, judged by recent French Writers: being Selections from the Works of PASTY, BRADMONT, O'CONNOR, SIMMONDI, BURET, GUIZOT, CONSTANT, DUPIN, SAY, BLANQUI, and MIGNET; showing the Advantage of the Law of Equal Succession. With Explanatory and Statistical Notes, by the Translator. London: G. and J. DYER, 24, Paternoster row. Edinburgh: WILLIAM TAIT. Glasgow: ANDREW RUTHERFORD. Cupar Pife: G. T. TULLIS.

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COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.—METROPOLITAN DEMONSTRATION.—A PUBLIC TEA PARTY and SOIREE will be held in the Large Room of the CROWN and ANCHOR, Strand, on WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31st, 1844. W. S. CRAWFORD, Esq., M.P., will preside. Several Members of Parliament, and other influential gentlemen, are expected to attend. Tickets, for the Tea and Soiree, 2s. each; for the Soiree only, 6d. each; may be had of the Secretary, Mr Ellis, 118, High street, Islington, and at the bar of the Tavern.

LONDON PEACE SOCIETY.

TUESDAY, JAN. 30, at 7 P.M., a PUBLIC MEETING will be held in ALBANY CHAPEL, ALBANY ROAD, CAMBERWELL. WILLIAM CASH, Esq., of Peckham, will preside.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31, at 7 P.M., a LECTURE will be delivered in the FRIENDS' MEETING-HOUSE, HOUNDSDITCH, by Mr J. Stork, Minister of the Baptist chapel, Chatham.

LECTURES ON ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS.
TUESDAY EVENING, JAN. 30th, the ELEVENTH LECTURE will be delivered by the Rev. T. ARCHER, A.M., on "Establishments encumbering the Action of Civil Government, and Hostile to the Progress of Civil Liberty."

TUESDAY, FEB. 6th, the TWELFTH LECTURE, by the Rev. J. STEVENSON, A.M., on "The Present Duty of Christians in reference to Establishments."

To commence at Half-past Seven o'Clock.

FAREWELL SERVICES.

FINSBURY CHAPEL, THE REV. A. FLETCHER'S. On SUNDAY EVENING, the 28th JANUARY, 1844, a SERMON will be delivered in the above Chapel, by the Rev. W. DUGGAN, Descendant of Africa, and Native Baptist Minister at Spanish Town, Jamaica. Service to commence at a Quarter past Six o'Clock precisely.

On Tuesday evening, the 30th Jan.,

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held at the above Chapel, the Rev. A. FLETCHER will preside. The Rev. Abraham Jones, of Chatham; the Rev. H. S. Seaborn, of Coverdale chapel, Limehouse; the Rev. William Tyler, of Hope street; the Rev. Elias Parry, of Northampton Tabernacle, Clerkenwell; the Rev. G. Evans, of Mile End; the Rev. J. B. Talbot, Hephzibah chapel, Commercial road; the Rev. William Duggan, and other Ministers and Friends, are expected to address the Meeting. A Collection will be made for Establishing Schools in connexion with the cause under the pastoral care of the Rev. W. Duggan in Jamaica. The Chair to be taken at Six o'Clock.

THE DISSENTERS' AND GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Half-yearly Dividend, at the rate of Five per cent., declared on the 10th inst., is payable to the Shareholders on any day between Ten and Four, at the Offices of the Company, 62, King William street, London bridge.

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January 12, 1844.

By order of the Board,
THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

UNITARIAN LECTURES.

THE Committee of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association beg to announce that, in conformity with their arrangements, a Course of Lectures, designed to illustrate the Value, and expose the Evidence, of Unitarian Christianity, will be commenced in the Chapel in Little Portland street, Regent street, on the Evening of SUNDAY, the 29th January inst., and will be continued according to the following Syllabus of Propositions and Subjects on each succeeding Sunday Evening.

Divine service will commence at Seven o'clock.

Jan. 29, 1844.—The Rev. **ROBERT TAYLOR**, Minister of the Chapel. "The Character of Christ, as delineated in the Four Gospels, a comparison of the views of a rational, liberal, and charitable School of Unitarianism."

Feb. 4.—The Rev. **THOMAS MANOR**, of Essex street chapel, Strand. "The Unitarian Doctrine the ancient Doctrine of the Christian Church."

Feb. 11.—The Rev. **HUGH HUTTON**, of the Old Meeting, Birmingham. "The Evangelical Record of the Life and Teaching of Jesus Christ a continual Testimony to the Simple Humanity of the Saviour and to the Sole Deity of God the Father."

Feb. 18.—The Rev. **CHARLES WICKSTEED**, of Mill Hill chapel, Leeds. "The Claims of the Church of England to uninterrupted Apostolical Descent and Spiritual Independence historically considered."

Feb. 25.—The Rev. Dr **HUTTON**, of Little Carter lane chapel, Boston. "Comments. 'The Assumption, open or secret, of infallibility, the true cause of the Religious World continuing in bondage.'"

March 2.—The Rev. Dr **STANLEY**, of the Hackney Gravel pit chapel. "The Connexion between the pure Truths of the Gospel and Religious Liberty and the improvement of Society."

March 10.—The Rev. **GEORGE ARMSTRONG**, A.B., of Bristol. "Unitarian Views of the Doctrine of Salvation by Christ."

March 17.—The Rev. **SAMUEL BACHE**, of the New Meeting, Birmingham. "Reason and Revelation—their respective Claims and reciprocal Relations assigned and vindicated."

March 24.—The Rev. A. M. **WALKER**, of the New chapel, Brixton. "Orthodoxy contrasted, in its Doctrines, Spirit, and Tendencies, with Unitarian Christianity."

March 31.—The Rev. **WILLIAM HINKES**, of Stamford street chapel, Southwark. "The Futility of all claims to a Christian Priesthood."

April 7.—The Rev. B. T. **STANNUS**, of Sheffield. "Christ's Moral Affinity to God and Man."

April 14.—The Rev. R. **BROOK ASPLAND**, of Duckinfield. "The Resurrection of Jesus Christ—the great Fact of the Gospel. Its Importance destroyed by the Orthodox System of Faith."

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.

THE SUB-COMMITTEE appointed to complete and publish the List of the General Provisional Committee, have the pleasure of reporting the names of gentlemen who have consented to act; from which it will be seen that the concurrent parties to this important movement comprehend persons of the highest respectability connected with various denominations in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. They have not yet closed their list, though they have far exceeded the number originally contemplated, and await the adhesion of others who, holding the sacred principles avowed, may wish to unite in the decided and Christian course it is intended to insure.

Hackney, Jan. 23, 1844.

F. A. COX, Prov. Sec.

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